

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XVIII, Issue No. 148

TUESDAY MAY 27, 2008

www.saipantribune.com 50¢



OPINION METER

This week's poll:
With a new minimum wage hike taking effect this week, what impact do you think it will have on the CNMI economy in general?

Let your voice be heard!
Go to
www.saipantribune.com
to cast your vote.

INSIDE



Severe Weather

Severe thunderstorms packing large hail and tornadoes rumbled across the nation's midsection on Sunday, killing eight.

NATION...Page 15

Aftershocks

A powerful aftershock destroyed tens of thousands of homes in China on Sunday, killing six and hurting 500 others.

ASIA...Page 16



Best in Show

James Fleming led about 25 competitors to take home the overall best in show award in Sunday's Form and Function Auto Show.

OVERDRIVE...Page 18

Rangamar and Salas top GCA's graduates. **PAGE 2**

56 sixth grade Tottots fly out of their DES nest. **PAGE 3**

CPA employees face pay cut

By AGNES E. DONATO
agnes_donato@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Employees at the Commonwealth Ports Authority are facing a 10-percent salary cut as the agency strives to reduce costs to meet its debt requirements.

Beginning June 22, 2008, CPA personnel will work 72 hours every two-week period, acting executive director Lee Cabrera said in a memorandum.

The ports authority has also suspended all hiring, overtime payment, pay hikes, promotions, and any reclassification that will mean additional costs to CPA.

In addition, the agency has banned off-island travel, except for trips fully paid for by the Federal Aviation Administration. CPA is

See CPA on Page 4

Kilili throws hat into delegate ring

By AGNES E. DONATO
agnes_donato@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



Sablan

A third candidate has declared his bid to become the first Northern Marianas delegate to the U.S. House

See KILILI on Page 4



JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ

Members of the Company E, 100th Battalion, 442nd Infantry of the US Army Reserve offer a salute in front of a table set to honor of the men and women who have made the ultimate sacrifice and all POW-MIA during yesterday's observance of Memorial Day at the CNMI Veterans Cemetery in Marpi. Inset shows family members offering small American flags and flowers for their departed loved ones.

NMI remembers fallen soldiers and veterans

By RIANNE PANGELINAN-BROWN
rienne_pangelinan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

"Throughout history, our nation

has willingly sent their sons and their daughters to the forefront of every conflict America has faced. Whether fighting for free-

dom in the jungles of Vietnam, making a stand against terrorism in Iraq or Afghanistan, or delivering humanitarian assistance

across the globe, the heroes of the CNMI have answered the call. The cost was great."

See NMI on Page 4

Spacecraft successfully lands on Mars

By ALICIA CHANG
AP SCIENCE WRITER

PASADENA, Calif. (AP)—A NASA spacecraft plunged into the atmosphere of Mars and successfully landed in the Red Planet's northern polar region on Sunday, where it will begin

See SPACECRAFT on Page 4



AP

This image provided by NASA, JPL-Caltech and the University of Arizona shows a portion of the Martian landscape seen from the Phoenix Mars Lander after it landed on the planet on Sunday, May 25, 2008. The spacecraft touched down in the northern polar region of the planet after a 422 million-mile flight from Earth.

INTRODUCING

ICONNECT'S

25-5 MABUHAY
TALK & TEXT!

TALK & TEXT to the Philippines!
SMART, GLOBE & SUN CELLULAR

25¢ PER MINUTE FOR CALLS
5¢ PER TEXT MESSAGE
TEXT & TAWAG NA!



888-8888

FREE incoming text messages.
Conditions apply.

Local



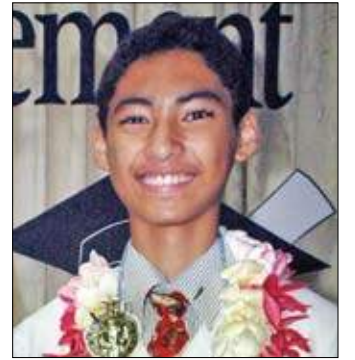
JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ

Grace Christian Academy Junior High School graduates gather for a photo shortly after their Commencement Exercise Saturday.

Rangamar and Salas top GCA's graduates



**LI'AMWAR ELLOISE
RANGAMAR**
Valedictorian



**EDWARD ANGELO
SALAS**
Salutatorian

By JACQUELINE DELA CRUZ
jackie_delacruz89@yahoo.com
JUNIOR REPORTER

The Grace Christian Academy presented 33 graduating students during its junior high school's commencement exercise at the school's auditorium last Saturday.

Li'Amwar Elloise Rangamar, 14 years old and the youngest in her family, led the roster of graduates with the Valedictorian award. The Salutatorian award went to Edward Angelo Salas, 14.

In an interview with the *Saipan Tribune*, Rangamar said: "I feel really good, I'm proud of myself with the accomplishments I did, especially since my hardest class is math and science. I want to thank my family for all their support."

"It's surprising to see how far we've come in life. I'm anxious to start a new journey but I'm dreading how we will be going our separate ways. I will miss and treasure the memories of the days we spent in class, study sessions, and cramming," she added.

Rangamar will be going to Marianas High School next school year.

Salas, 14, shared his experiences and how he feels about the next step in his educational journey.

"Now we move on to a new beginning. Our junior high door may have closed, but our high school door is opening."

Salas advised his classmates to be tobacco/ alcohol free and to always turn to God. "Let's make the best of our next four years as it will mold us into what we will be, what we will become and make our parents proud of us," said Salas. "This has been a journey that we won't forget. Time flies, and as time goes on we got to make the most of what we have."

Salas said he is curious about what is in store for him, but he still has faith in God. "I want to thank my mom, dad, teachers, my friend and God," he added.

Salas will be attending GCA high school.

The graduation ceremony's emcee was Heather Linday. Raymond Kinsella and principal Faith Dela Rosa gave the 33 graduates their diplomas. Ami Joy Danganan and Mark Robles conferred the valedictorian and salutatorian awards.

BoS sues former senator, ex-wife for \$18,373 loan

The Bank of Saipan Inc. has sued former Senate President Joaquin G. Adriano and his ex-wife Marian for their alleged failure to pay \$18,373 loan.

BoS, through lawyer S. Joshua Berger, asked the Superior Court to hold the Adrianos liable to pay the loan, plus accruing interest, court costs, and attorney's fees.

BoS asked the court to order the sale of the mortgaged property if the defendants fail to pay the amount.

Berger stated in the complaint that the Adrianos' original loan was \$16,677.22, but that as of Feb. 15, 2008, they owe the bank \$18,373.33.

Berger said that on Aug. 10, 2007, a notice of default was

issued by BoS and hand-delivered to them.

"Greater than 30 days has elapsed since service of the notice of default upon the Adrianos and yet they have failed to cure the default," the lawyer said.

Berger said the Adrianos are in breach of their agreement with the bank.

In October 2007, the Texas-based LPP Mortgage Ltd. sued the Adrianos for alleged non-payment of over \$46,000 disaster loans that they borrowed in 1998.

LPP Mortgage also asked the court to order the sale of the mortgaged property containing 999 square meters of land in Koblerville, Saipan if the judgment is not paid in full. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

Say "I did it" with a smile

Amazing phones with price to match for your graduation day.



Samsung Juke



LG Chocolate



Motorola V276



Motorola V555



Customer Care: 682-4PTI
www.pticom.com
wap.pticom.com

Offer valid May 19th - May 30th

QUALITY CONNECTIONS
EXCEPTIONAL VALUE
TRUSTED NETWORK

*Some conditions apply • 300 min More Plan or up • 2 year agreement • Single Plans only • While supplies last

56 sixth grade Tottots fly out of their DES nest

By **RIANNE PANGELINAN-BROWN**
rianne_pangelinan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Dandan Elementary School campus was swarming with parents, relatives, friends and school officials last Friday to honor the school's sixth grade graduates who earned certificates of completion and promotion to the junior high school level.

A total of 56 students were greeted with thunderous applause as they marched onto the DES stage for their farewell ceremony.

Outgoing sixth graders Marielle Kapileo and Joann Reyes saw the fruit of all their hard work after Kapileo was awarded the Commissioner's Award while Reyes earned the Principal's Award.

Upon receiving her plaque, Kapileo said "This would not have been possible without the individuals who taught and instilled the knowledge and skills per grade level."

Kapileo was a student of DES since Kindergarten and recognized each teacher she had in each grade level in her speech, as well as school officials.

She said it was their "outstanding leadership" that made the school the "best learning environment, peaceful and safe campus."

Also earning individual awards were Michael Santos, Cindy Benavente, Chelsea Yangirefil, Beatrice Cruz, Andy John Hambros, Peter Borja, Joni Francesca C. Castro, and

writing to Agulto and Lea C. Guiao; math to Valenzuela and Pineda; social studies to Babauta and Lallane Guiao; science to Lea Guiao and Agulto; Chamorro bilingual to Lallane Guiao and Reyes; and sportsmanship to Zerah Castro and Babauta.

DES principal Jonas M. Barcinas said that in his eight years as principal, "This has been, by far, the most energetic batch of sixth graders Dandan has ever had."

He said the students have endured so much throughout the past 180 days. And although the promotion ceremony usually constitutes a time to say farewell, "it also gives us a chance to think back on the year that was. A year, which although was marked by financial setbacks and uncertainty, was a successful one for our school which further motivated these young minds that sit atop this beautiful stage."

After a sensational singing performance of the song *Friends Forever*, the students were able to unite with their close friends and families.

Yuri Cepeda, who were recipients of the presidential award for educational excellence.

Other awards were also presented such as the service award to Castro and Hambros; most athletic award to Kapileo and Alex Mongkeya; most active student council representative to Castro; and the top three school-end essay contest winners were Reyes, Santos, and Yangirefil.

Other awards were also presented, such as reading to Guiao and Babauta; language arts and



MARIELLE KAPILEO
Commissioner's Award



JOANN REYES
Principal's Award



JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ

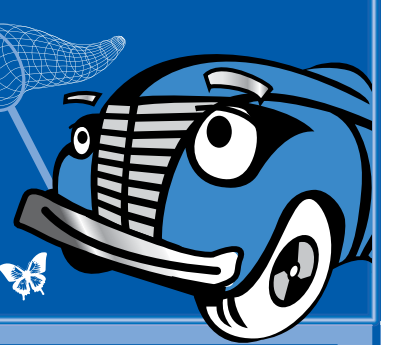
Commissioner's Awardee Marielle Kapileo delivers her speech during the Dandan Elementary School Sixth Grade Farewell Ceremony Friday morning.

Customers First



Spring SERVICE SPECIALS

Spring into Service Savings!



Bumper-to-Bumper Maintenance Service

STARTING AT
\$99⁹⁵*



- Oil Change using Castrol GTX, including new oil filter
- Inspect & clean brake system, steering & suspension
- Inspect and rotate tires
- Inspect fuel tank, lines, hoses & connections, plus add Johnsen's Fuel-Injector Cleaner
- Inspect front & rear axle boots & joints
- Adjust belts
- Inspect emission control
- Clean air filter
- Test battery & clean terminals – Charge if necessary
- Check underbody for damage, rust or corrosion
- Perform minor chassis lubrication & topping of low fluids

* 4 cylinder vehicles only. 6+ cylinder vehicles & above starting at \$109.95. Disposal fee not included and some restrictions apply. Service recommended every 6 months or 6,000 miles. Keep your brakes and engine oil clean!

Plus receive a **FREE** Support the Troops Ribbon air freshener!

Has it been that long since your last comprehensive maintenance service?



Triple J's Annual Maintenance Service:

- Includes everything in the Bumper-to-Bumper maintenance service, plus...
- Replace fuel filter (external)
- Robinaire CoolTech A/C system service and freon re-charge
- New MaxVision wiper blades, an exterior car wash, can of Fresh Gel XL "New Car" scent and new cloth floor mats.
- Wynn's Supreme+ Engine Flush service included in this service at no additional charge!

Starting at **\$189⁹⁵***

* 4 cylinder vehicles only. 6+ cylinder vehicles & above starting at \$209.95. Disposal fee not included and some restrictions apply.

Do you have a Service Edge, Warrantech or Repair Master extended service warranty?

FREE Diagnosis!



Come to Triple J Motors for a **FREE mechanical diagnosis** with your extended warranty booklet.*

*Free diagnosis for current, non-expired Service Edge, Warrantech or Repair Master contract holders only.

Customers First



TRIPLE J MOTORS PARTS & SERVICE

MON - FRI: 7:30am to 5:30pm • SAT: 7:30am to 5:00pm • Located on Beach Road, Chalan Lau Lau
Telephone: 234-7133/3051 ext 25/27 • Fax: 646-9487
Email: serviceadvisor@triplejsaipan.com or rsteele@triplejsaipan.com

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
State Board of Education
Public School System
P. O. Box 501370, Saipan, MP 96950

PUBLIC NOTICE

Meeting recessed and will resume on Wednesday, May 28, 2008 at 7:30 a.m.

Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9910(a), the Eleventh CNMI State Board of Education hereby gives notice that there will be a Special Board Meeting on Friday, May 23, 2008 at 1:00 p.m. at BOE Conference Room, 2nd Floor, Retirement Fund Building, Saipan.

AGENDA

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------|
| I. Preliminary | |
| a. Call to Order | c. Adoption of Agenda |
| b. Roll Call | d. Adoption of Minutes |
| II. Public Comments | |
| III. Reports | |
| a. Chair | |
| b. Board Committees | |
| i. CIA | v. School Reform |
| ii. CIP | vi. Special Education |
| iii. FPA | vii. Private Schools |
| iv. LIA | |
| c. Commissioner | |
| d. Non-Public School Representative | |
| e. Student Representative | |
| IV. Executive Session | |
| a. Legal Counsel's Report | |
| i. Grievance matter update | |
| ii. SSHS – Loyola University agreement | |
| b. Personnel | |
| i. Selection of BOE Administrative Officer III | iii. Rota High School Petition |
| ii. PSS Legal Counsel Position | iv. Employment of COE |
| c. Other matters | |
| V. Old Business | |
| a. Rota High School Petition | |
| VI. New Business | |
| a. Approval of SY 2008-2009 Head Start Calendar | |
| b. Approval of SY 2008-2009 Early Intervention Service Calendar | |
| c. Approval of Head Start 2008-2009 Training and Technical Assistance Supplemental Funding application | |
| d. Approval of School Leadership Grant application | |
| e. Professional Development Funds | |
| f. Approval of NASBE Professional Development Funds | |
| g. School Achievement Performance Video | |
| h. Selection of BOE Administrative Officer III | |
| i. Employment of COE | |
| VII. Miscellaneous Matters | |
| VIII. Discussion of Agenda for next Board meeting | |
| IX. Adjournment | |

¹ Pursuant to BOE Policy 0415, public comments are limited to 30 minutes. We ask that remarks be limited to 3 minutes each. Everyone is welcomed to submit written comments.

² Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9912, the Board may vote to meet in executive session at any time.

Help sought for patient with \$800K hospital bill

A not-for-profit organization is seeking help on behalf of a patient who is facing a bill of over \$800,000 for his liver transplant.

According to the National Foundation for Transplants, former Rota resident Vincent Manglona has been battling liver disease since he was a teenager. Two and a half years ago, he learned from a wellness

checkup that he had end-stage liver disease. He was treated at St. Luke's Hospital in the Philippines. But the holiday season of December 2007 saw his condition deteriorate rapidly, prompting his family to transfer him to Stanford Medical Center in California.

On Jan. 20, 2008, he underwent a successful liver transplant operation at the

Stanford Medical Center. At the end of January, his wife was presented with a bill amounting \$811,000.

Although he has some insurance coverage, he and his family are faced with the great financial burden entailed by a lifetime of follow up care, which is "as critical to his survival as the transplant itself."

The NFT Guam Liver Fund

said anti-rejection medications alone range from \$1,000 to \$4,000 a month.

"Vincent, his family, his friends, and NFT need your help. Your gift, large or small, will enable NFT to provide the assistance that Vincent desperately needs now," said NFT, which has been assisting transplant patients with advocacy, financial and fundraising

support for over 25 years.

To make an online donation, go to www.transplants.org. Click on Patients We Help and the map of Guam, then search for Vincent Manglona's name.

Checks may also be written and mailed to:

NFT Guam Liver Fund
In honor of Vincent Manglona
PO Box 4421

Hagatna, Guam 96932

Donations made to NFT, for Manglona's benefit, are tax deductible.

Those who need more information may contact the NFT staff at 800-489-3863. Those interested in volunteering may call Tom Camacho at 671-477-7991 or e-mail him at tpcamacho@dnaguam.net. (*Agnes E. Donato*)

NMI

From Page 1

Keynote speaker Rear Adm. William D. French said this in yesterday's Memorial Day ceremony held at the Veterans Memorial Park in Susupe, stressing the importance of reflection and recognition of fallen heroes, veterans, and individuals currently serving in the military.

The U.S. Defense Representative for Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, and the Republic of Palau said that the Memorial Day commemoration should continue forever, as it also serves as a time to remember, honor, and thank individuals responsible for the country's freedom.

"Today is the day we remember them to represent the dedication, the pride and patriotism of the CNMI people. They died fighting for a cause, a good cause, that our nation will be forever grateful," said French.

Office of the Military/Veterans Affairs executive director Ruth Coleman also shared her remarks for this Memorial Day.

She said that today, the nation is obsessed with costs—"The cost of gasoline, the cost of food, the cost of living. But at which cost do we gather here today as citizens of the most powerful free nation on earth?"

"On Memorial Day, we honor and remember those who have paid the price of our security and freedom, those who have sacrificed in this nation's defense so that we can complain about the cost of gasoline, and food, and if we choose, do something about it," said Coleman.

"Each of those we remember today came to one defining moment of decision—to put on our country's uniform and recite a solemn oath of allegiance to our nation and its bedrock of principles," Coleman said.

She explained that it is in that one moment that sets them apart forever. "It changed their lives and took many ordinary people to extraordinary experiences of hardship and heroism."

She added that these individuals are those the nation calls heroes. "But they didn't put the uniform on to be heroes. There was a job to be done and they did the best they knew how."

Coleman said only a few would claim the title hero, although all of them are and so are those they leave behind such as mothers, fathers, wives, sons, and daughters "who made



JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ

Office of the Military/Veterans Affairs executive director Ruth Coleman delivers her remarks for this Memorial Day.

their own sacrifice...those who waited anxiously at home and sometimes—too many times—received that fateful telegram or knock on the door."

"What can we say—what can anyone say—to those who lose a loved one to war. Words fail us most of the time," Coleman said.

She asked how else can the living repay such a debt after giving the nation so much.

"We still rely on our sons and daughters to defend our liberty and bear sacrifice on the altar of freedom. And they rely on us to honor them, support them, believe in them and hold them in our thoughts... this Memorial Day and everyday," Coleman said.

'Freedom is not free'

Acting Gov. Timothy P. Villagomez echoed this remark, alluding to a statement he said during last year's Memorial Day.

"As I said then, we are reminded that freedom is not free. Whether it be a service member of decades ago or a young man or woman in the war zone today, our history has been secured by those in uniform," Villagomez said.

He said that this Memorial Day weekend, "kids get out of school to enjoy summer vacation, families gather to have picnics, the Indianapolis 500

cho, Cpl. Joe Junior G. Charfaurus, and Seaman Ana Marie SN Camacho.

Casualties from Guam, Sgt. Jesse Castro and Spc. John Flores, are also considered from the CNMI since their biological parents are from the Northern Marianas.

Pfc. Victor Michael Fontanilla's home record is in California but his biological parents are from the CNMI.

According to French, "Those who served and those who fall are not just statistics from this war. They are not faceless soldiers, sailors, airmen, Marines, or Coast Guards men. They are our fellow citizens, they are the Commonwealth's beloved sons and daughters—your family, your friends, and your neighbors."

Annual rite

The ceremony featured the laying of wreaths by Villagomez, Saipan Mayor Juan B. Tudela, French, Coleman, members of the VFW Post 3457, members of the CNMI Veterans Association, members of the U.S. Armed Forces Association, Miss Teen CNMI Ariel St. Clair, Little Miss CNMI Kayla Borja, and Princess Cassandra Royal.

The ceremony also featured a 21-gun salute, executed by Company E, 100th Battalion, 442nd (SEP) Infantry of the U.S. Army Reserve.

JROTC cadets from Saipan Southern, Kagman, and Marianas high schools were also involved in the ceremony, responsible for the posting of flags.

The ceremony was also attended by members of the Legislature, veterans, and current members of the military.

Ceremonial music, as well as the U.S. and CNMI anthems, were provided by the Pacific Winds Concert Band.

All flags in the CNMI were placed at half-staff.

with limited voting powers to the U.S. House of Representatives. Similar to House members and other delegates, the CNMI delegate will be elected to Congress every two years. He can serve on committees, as well as vote on legislation at the committee level. But floor voting will not be permitted.

Judge Juan T. Lizama, who stepped down from the bench last Saturday, is reported to be interested in joining the congressional race.

Rep. Ray N. Yumul. Both are seeking the endorsement of the NMI Republican Party, and will face off in the GOP primary tentatively scheduled for July 12, 2008.

The election for the delegate position will take place on Nov. 4, 2008.

The Election Commission will accept nominating petitions and candidacy documents from July 7 to August 6, 2008.

Under the recently enacted delegate law, Northern Marianas will have a representative

CPA

From Page 1

also keeping a tighter rein on inter-island trips; they will be approved on a case-by-case basis by the acting executive director and the acting comptroller.

CPA hopes to reduce operating expenses by 10 percent.

"It is very difficult for me to impose more restrictions on our expenditures and also expect you to deliver a high level of service to the public. However, it is very critical that we immediately take action in order that we meet our financial obligations," Cabrera told the employees.

The cost-cutting measures were implemented in the wake of CPA's failure to meet the revenue level required by its 1998 indenture on its airport revenue bonds. The bond agreement requires CPA to make timely payments. It also requires CPA to maintain a 1.25 revenue-to-bond payment ratio at all times in the duration of the bond. This means for every \$1 owed on the bond, CPA must have \$1.25 of net revenue in reserve.

SPACECRAFT

From Page 1

90 days of digging in the permafrost to look for evidence of the building blocks of life.

Less than two hours later, the Phoenix Mars Lander beamed back four dozen black-and-white images including one of its foot sitting on Martian soil amid tiny rocks. Others included the horizon of the arctic plain and ground with polygon patterns similar to what can be found in Earth's permafrost regions.

"Absolutely beautiful," said Dan McCleese, a chief scientist at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory. "It looks like a good place to start digging."

Cheers swept through mission control when the touchdown signal from the Phoenix Mars Lander was detected after a nailbiting descent. Engineers and scientists hugged and high-fived one another.

"In my dreams it couldn't have gone as perfectly as it went," project manager Barry Goldstein said. "It went right down the middle."

The initial pictures were primarily to give engineers information on the condition of the lander including its power supply and the health of its science instruments. An image showed the lander un-

furled its solar panels as planned after the dust settled.

Initial results show Phoenix landed almost level, tilted at a quarter of a degree.

"The hardest part is over. There's still a lot of drama left," said Goldstein, who kept up a JPL tradition by passing out bowls of lucky peanuts during the landing.

Phoenix plunged into the Martian atmosphere at more than 12,000 mph after a 10-month, 422 million-mile voyage through space. The lander kept in contact with Earth through the orbiting Mars Odyssey during the entire "seven minutes of terror."

It performed a choreographed dance that included unfurling its parachute, shedding its heat shield and backshell, and firing thrusters to slow to a 5 mph touchdown. The radio signal confirming the landing came at 4:53 p.m. PDT.

"Touchdown detected!! We're on the surface of Mars and there is celebration in Mission Control!!" JPL engineer Brent Shockley blogged from inside mission control.

It's the first successful soft landing on Mars since the twin Viking landers touched down in 1976. NASA's twin rovers, which successfully landed on Mars four years ago, used a combination of parachutes and cushioned air bags to bounce to the surface.

KILILI

From Page 1

of Representatives.

Gregorio Sablan, executive director at the Commonwealth Election Commission, said he will run as an independent candidate.

"This election is crucial," said Sablan. "Anybody who runs should carry the people's agenda, [as opposed to the agenda of any particular political party]."

Details of his platform will be released later.

Sablan took leave from his post on Friday, May 23, 2008. He will resign once he has used up his leave credits.

Sablan has led the election commission for almost 10 years. He is also a former lawmaker, having served two terms as a member of the House of Representatives in the 1980s.

Two other candidates have announced their candidacy so far: Resident Rep. Pete A. Tenorio and

Guam-based employer barred from hiring workers

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie.delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Department of Labor has barred an employer who is now residing in Guam and found to have engaged in unlawful conduct relating to the operations of her remaining business on Saipan.

Labor Administrative Hearing Officer Jerry Cody sanctioned businesswoman Xiao Mei Feng Castro by disqualifying her from employing nonresident workers in the Commonwealth for a period of five years.

Cody said the sanction applies to the renewal of existing workers as well as a prohibition on the hiring of new workers.

"The evidence establishes a systematic pattern of fiscal mismanagement and neglect of this business by this absentee owner," he said.

He granted the request of Castro's employees—Changfu Chi and Zhenghua Chang—to transfer to new employers.

Cody said all alien workers who are currently working for Castro are ordered to cease working immediately, with the exemption of Nestor Pinote, who evidently has a renewal application currently pending with Labor.

The hearing officer recommended that Pinote's renewal application be denied based on Castro's conduct.

According to Labor records, Castro is an employer who has been engaged in several businesses on Saipan, including an automotive repair shop, a house rental business, a karaoke bar and an air conditioning repair business.

In January 2007, Castro filed transfer applications to hire Chi as an auto mechanic and Chang as a commercial cleaner.

In July 2007, Labor issued deficiency notices, citing that the employer's applications were missing several items, including a valid business license and an updated business establishment inspection for the automotive shop.

Labor also noted the employer's need to justify the commercial cleaner position.

On Jan. 11, 2008, Labor denied the applications based on the uncorrected deficiencies.

Castro, Chang, and Chi appealed.

In his order issued last week, Cody said that, at the hearing, the testimony established that Castro has closed her house rental business and karaoke bar, leaving just her automotive shop in operation.

Cody said that Castro, who has resided full-time in Guam for many months, left her operations manager in control of the daily management of the business.

Castro visits Saipan about once every month, at which time she pays cash salaries to her employees. She maintains no separate bank account for this business; instead, she pays salaries in cash.

At the conclusion of the April hearing, the parties were ordered to provide by the next hearing some documents.

At the hearing on May 13, 2008, Castro failed to produce the requested cash bonds or a separate bank account.

Cody said that, at the hearing the evidence established certain troubling facts regarding Castro's conduct.

The hearing officer cited that Castro began employing Chi and Zhang in February 2007 and continued employing them

until the present—for more than a year—despite the fact that no conditional grants were ever approved for these two workers.

Cody said the business tax records demonstrate that Castro's income generated by this business in 2007 was substantially less than the salaries allegedly paid to the employer's work force.

"This fact makes it highly likely that not all workers were

paid their full wages," he said.

Castro testified that she pays her operations manager \$800 to \$1,000 per month. However, Cody noted, the manager's contract specifies a salary of \$1,700 per month.

Two other employee applications (Yang Tao and Marcelyn Pinote) have been denied but employer Castro has neglected to file any appeals for these workers.

Another employee, Zhang Xiu Ying, whose valid permit is scheduled to expire in July 2008, stopped working for Castro in April.

Yet, Cody said, the employer has neither terminated Miss Zhang nor reported her missing to the Labor director.

Cody said Castro's problematic conduct includes the employment of workers for more than a year

without conditional grants of transfer, failure to pay full wages to the operations manager, and the failure to report the abandonment of another worker.

He said the other unlawful conducts include the failure to keep financial accounts for the business in a separate bank account, and the fact that salary expenses greatly exceed the income generated by the business.

HUANG SHUN CORPORATION dba U-Joy Disco bar

**A newly opened bar in
San Jose, Tinian
is looking for
5 - WAITRESS**

**PLEASE CONTACT JUN-JUN
AT 285-0106**



Realty Management services is a full-service property management company located on the island of Saipan in the U.S. Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

PMB 521 Box 10000
Saipan, MP 96950-8900
Tel: 1 (670) 235-6527/28
Fax: (670) 235-6530
sales@rmssaipan.com
www.rmssaipan.com



**Tired of
Living in the
Dark?
Enjoy
24/7
POWER**

Conveniently located on Fina Sisu road, only a 5-minute walk to Northern Marianas College. Close to stores and schools, Finasisu Terraces features a convenient, spacious parking area. Fully furnished air-conditioned units are ready to move in. Single and two bedroom units are available.

- 24 Hour Water
- Night time security
- Typhoon Shutters
- Laundry area
- Free trash collection
- Backup Generator
- On-call maintenance staff

Now we're giving you more reasons to sign up for a year's contract!

Receive an annual FREE VIP Membership to Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan and enjoy these VIP privileges:

- 1 Free Sunday Brunch Buffet for two
- 20% discount on food and beverages in all outlets / restaurants
- 20% discount on drinks after happy hour at the Chambre Bar
- Above discounts good for up to 6 persons (including VIP cardholder)

NMI AmeriCorps approved for \$535K grant

By **RIANNE PANGELINAN-BROWN**
rianne_pangelinan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

After two successful years of being implemented in the CNMI, the Public School System's AmeriCorps Program has been given a chance to continue the program for another year.

AmeriCorps CNMI lead coordinator and director Geri Willis said the AmeriCorps Program in the CNMI has once again received federal funding from the Corporation for National and Community Service.

The award amount is \$535,605 for school year 2008-

2009, with an increase from 45 to 60 members.

"I'm really excited as I just received an e-mail from Corporation of the National and Community Service approving the grant I wrote for the CNMI AmeriCorps Program," said Willis.

The program has begun accepting applications and forms may be obtained from the AmeriCorps Program center at the Marianas High School Building H.

The CNMI AmeriCorps Program recruits students from public and private schools who will serve as part-time tutors for public school students from

Kindergarten to 8th grade on Rota, Tinian, and Saipan. They will be tutoring students in reading and provide service learning activities for the community.

Willis said the members had been "awesome." She said the impact of the program on reading this past year has "truly been amazing." She said: "In some cases the tutors have been able to increase reading levels by as much as 3-4 grade levels."

The purpose of the AmeriCorps program is to promote community service and develop dedicated role models for the local community. Members will be part of

the Corporation for National and Community Service.

Willis said the members are paid a stipend and upon successful completion of 900 hours of service within a year they also qualify for an Education Award of \$2,362.50.

"This award can be used to attend qualified institutions of higher education, training or to repay qualified student loans," she said, adding that, as an AmeriCorps member, every student has the opportunity to make a lasting impression on the lives of people in the community where they serve.

Selection Criteria

Applicant must submit a personal portfolio to Willis, with evidence that supports/includes the following:

- Application to the AmeriCorps Program

- Copy of your transcript from your high school indicating that you have at least a 2.5 overall GPA on a 4.0 scale.

- Proof of U.S. citizenship or U.S. national, or lawful permanent resident alien of the United States.

- Proof that you are at least 17 years of age at the commencement of AmeriCorps Member service year. Age can be lower for AmeriCorps volunteer. Member must provide proof of citizenship and age, with a driver's license and passport, or license and birth certificate. Individuals who are in the U.S. under a student, work or tourist visa are NOT eligible to become AmeriCorps members.

- Excellent attendance record provided by your high school.

- Two references. One must be from a teacher.

- Completed Parent Recommendation Form

mentation Form

- One- two page essay on, "Why I Want to Become a Teacher."

- Any other pieces of information/documents/letters that you'd like to include in the portfolio that you feel would support your selection.

- Police Clearance and Fingerprinting (Due after being selected)

- Health Clearance (due after being selected)

- Proof of Insurance Liability Coverage/Release of Liability Letter (due after being selected)

For questions and clarifications, contact Willis or Remi Sablan at 237-3294. Application portfolio should be turned in to the high school principal or directly to the AmeriCorps Center located at the H Building inside the MHS Campus.

Norita: DPS overtime will increase

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Department of Public Safety is expected to incur more overtime costs with the expected deployment of 32 police officers and firefighters to the Middle East in July 2008.

DPS Commissioner Claudio Norita told *Saipan Tribune* that the departure of the personnel means that the department will

be consuming overtime to cover the officers that are gone.

"The overtime will increase between July and August 2008," Norita said.

Overtime compensation may go down again starting September because by mid-August 20 police cadets and 16 firefighters are expected to complete training, he said.

DPS has significantly cut its overtime costs due to lack of budget.

Norita has been pushing to immediately begin the academy as the 32 police officers and firefighters are reportedly leaving for Kuwait by July 15, 2008.

He encouraged all people who are interested to become police officers and firefighters

to get the forms from the Office of Personnel Management.

Aside from 20 police officers and 15 firefighters, DPS is also hiring five civilian dispatchers.

Norita said the hiring of civilian dispatchers would relieve police officers from answering 911 emergency calls; instead, they will be assigned to the field.

Police officers and firefighters who have received the U.S. Army Reserve's call to active duty represents nearly 20 percent of the police and fire workforce on Saipan.

Norita earlier informed Gov. Benigno Fitial that this deployment call would create a manpower drain in the police and fire workforce.



Norita



REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL MVA-RFP-08-2293

For: **SECURITY SERVICES AT SELECTED TOURIST SITES**

Closing Date: **June 27, 2008**

Time: **3:00 p.m. (Saipan Time)**

Submit sealed proposals to:

The Division of Procurement & Supply
P.O. Box 510008
Saipan, MP 96950

Interested parties may pick up the scope of work at the MVA Saipan office between 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (Monday – Friday) except holidays or by visiting the MVA website at www.mymarianas.com.

/s/ HERMAN SABLAN
Director, Procurement & Supply

/s/ PERRY JOHN P. TENORIO
Managing Director

ANNOUNCEMENT



YASUSHI YOSHIDA



MASAYUKI MATSUI

**This is to inform the general public that as of April 1, 2008
THESE TWO GENTLEMEN AND EULANDS CNMI, INC.
are no longer affiliated with management and maintenance of the
ANAKS OCEAN VIEW HILL SAIPAN (ANAKS)**

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
RFP08-CHC-067**

SUBMISSION: JUNE 06, 2008 • TIME: 2:00 P.M.

**"TO PROVIDE AN IMPROVED REDUNDANT
COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM FOR THE
COMMONWEALTH HEALTH CENTER"**

COPIES OF THE SCOPE OF SERVICES MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY IN LOWER BASE DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

PREFERENCE IS AVAILABLE TO US CITIZENS OR PERMANENT RESIDENTS AS PER PUBLIC LAW 15-95 AND AS FURTHER AMENDED BY PUBLIC LAW 15-118 AND MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH THE PROPOSAL IF PREFERRED IS CLAIMED.

/s/ JOSEPH K.P. VILLAGOMEZ
Secretary of Health

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director, P&S

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
RFP08-DPH-070**

SUBMISSION: JULY 9, 2008 • TIME: 12:00 NOON

**"SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF A NEW MODERNIZE DIGITAL IMAGING
SYSTEMS, A NEW PACS SYSTEM AND VARIOUS OTHER MEDICAL
EQUIPMENT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH"**

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY IN LOWER BASE DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

A MANDATORY PRE-PROPOSAL CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD ON JUNE 25, 2008 AT 9:00 A.M. AT THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTH CENTER CONTINUING EDUCATION ROOM.

PREFERENCE IS AVAILABLE TO US CITIZENS OR PERMANENT RESIDENTS AS PER PUBLIC LAW 15-95 AND AS FURTHER AMENDED BY PUBLIC LAW 15-118 AND MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH THE PROPOSAL IF PREFERRED IS CLAIMED.

/s/ JOSEPH K.P. VILLAGOMEZ
Secretary of Health

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director, P&S

Nearly \$300K eyed for public school projects

Nearly \$300,000 will be appropriated to public school projects under a bill now before the House of Representatives.

Rep. Justo S. Quitugua has introduced legislation allowing the Public School System to use \$291,200 from its general obligation

bond with the Bank of New York Trust Company for capital improvement projects at schools.

House Bill 16-105 also appropriates any funds that may be realized at the closure of the indenture trust agreement to finance PSS' construction projects.

The projects, which include classroom repairs, construction of new facilities, and parking lot paving activities, are part of the seven-year capital improvement plan PSS developed in 2005. Encompassing PSS' high priority school facility needs from school

year 2004-05 to school year 2011-12, the CIP plan was drafted in anticipation of continued increase in student population.

The bill was based on a report from Education Commissioner David M. Borja, who had said that \$300,000 is now

available for appropriation.

Some \$1.37 million will be realized from the surplus account on Oct. 1, 2008, but the money is allocated for the final payment to the bondholders. Some \$2.1 million is also remaining in the projects account, but these

funds are already appropriated to pay for the ongoing projects on Tinian, Rota, and Saipan.

About \$230,000 are still in the rebates accounts, and they will be available 30 days after the final payment to the bondholders. *(Agnes E. Donato)*

Lizama affirms validity of last will made just days before woman died

The Superior Court has affirmed the validity of a deceased's will that was questioned by one of the heirs.

Associate Judge Juan T. Lizama granted the admission of Joaquina P. Reyes' last will into probate as her true last will and testament.

Lizama said he could find no evidence, either extrinsically or intrinsically, to show that the will was tampered with.

"There is continuity between the language and pages of the will and so the court finds that it has not been tampered with. The sequential order of the will is consistent with the development and drafting of a will," said Lizama in the order he issued a few days before he resigned from the bench on Saturday.

The judge said that even if the witnesses did not read through the will, it does not affect the admissibility of the document.

Court records show that Joaquina Reyes (testator) died on Oct. 14, 2003. Her alleged last will and testament was executed on Oct. 1, 2003.

At the time of execution of the will, Joaquina Reyes divided her property and belongings among her children.



Lizama

There was a piece of land that she included among her belongings. However, at the time the will was executed, this property had already been given to Brian P. Reyes.

Diana R. Domingo asked the court to admit the will into probate. She also requested to be named administratrix of Joaquina Reyes as the will commands.

Domingo presented three witnesses to testify the validity of the creation of the will.

Brian Reyes asked the court to not allow the admittance of the will based on three flaws:

the inclusion of the lot allegedly shows testator Joaquina Reyes didn't know the objects of her bounty and therefore didn't have capacity to make a will; the continued illness of the testator; and allegation of later alteration of the original will.

Lizama said that in order to admit a will for probate in the Commonwealth, a proponent must show that the testator was at least 18 years old and of sound mind to make a will and the will must be duly executed.

Lizama said he finds there was sufficient evidence presented to prove the valid execution of this will.

"If the execution was valid, and no duress or coercion is present, then the will should be admitted," he said.

In order for Mrs. Domingo to prevail, there must be convincing evidence that the will being offered is the same will the decedent executed, he added.

"The court finds that there is convincing evidence that the

will being admitted is the last will and testament of the testator," he said.

Lizama said that based on testimonies of witnesses, Joaquina Reyes, with her daughter, Mrs. Domingo, came to the parking lot of the attorney who drafted the will.

Lizama said there is no evidence that Domingo coerced or make her mother sign the will.

In fact, the judge noted, there was evidence presented

that Joaquina Reyes had been to the attorney's office on more than one occasion.

He said Joaquina Reyes had spoken at length with the attorney on the phone regarding the will and spoke for at least five minutes with the lawyer about the will on the day it was signed.

"Therefore this court finds there was certainly conclusive evidence that she was of sound mind and knew that she was signing her last will

and testament," he said.

Lizama said if the will did have an erroneous inclusion of the property that belonged to Brian Reyes then the court may handle that issue later as that has no bearing on the admissibility of the will.

"The court also is troubled by the handwritten alteration of the administratrix's name on a piece of evidence as this will wasn't the one that is being offered into probate," he added.

Customers First

48 HOUR

BUY WITH CONFIDENCE ONLY AT TRIPLE J

MONEY BACK GUARANTEE*

FIRST SERVICE FREE **FINANCING AVAILABLE**

INSPECTED & RECONDITIONED

1998 MITSUBISHI MONTERO 7M004-A SUV, 4x4, AT, A/C Power Clean \$5,995	2002 FORD FOCUS 2H0383 Wagon, AT, A/C, Power, Tinian \$6,995
2003 MAZDA PROTÉGÉ 3R924 4-Door, AT, A/C, Clean, Sharp \$7,295	2002 MAZDA MILLENIA 7D002-A 4-Door, AT, A/C, Power, Sharp \$7,995
2004 HYUNDAI SONATA 8H013-A 4-Door, AT, A/C, Clean, Must See \$8,595	2002 FORD CROWN VICTORIA 2H0389 4-Door, AT, A/C, Power, Nice and Clean \$8,595
2002 FORD MUSTANG 2H0387 2-Door, Convertible, A/C, Power, Sharp \$8,995	2000 NISSAN MAXIMA 8D003-A 4-Door, AT, A/C, Power, Clean and Sharp \$9,995
2005 MAZDA B2300 8D045-A 2WD, Reg. Cab, A/C, 5MT, Clean, Warranty \$10,595	2006 HYUNDAI SONATA 6H007-D 4-Door, AT, A/C, Clean, Warranty \$11,595
2005 HYUNDAI TUCSON 5R930 2WD, SUV, AT, Power, Sharp \$11,995	2005 MAZDA3S HATCHBACK 7D038-A 5-Door, AT, A/C, Power, Clean, Must See \$13,595
2005 MAZDA 6 5R929 4-Door, AT, A/C, Clean, Warranty \$14,595	2004 MAZDA B4000 SE 4D076-L 4X4 Cab, AT, A/C, Sharp \$15,995
2004 MAZDA RX-8 4R908 GT Coupe, AT, Loaded, Low Miles, Must See \$18,495	2007 HYUNDAI SANTA FE 7H040-D 2WD, SUV, AT, Power, Warranty \$18,595
2005 VOLVO XC90 T6 5V001-D SUV, AT, A/C, Loaded, Must See \$28,995	

MECHANICS SPECIAL

1994 CHEVY CAMARO 4R877-A 2-Door, Coupe, Runs \$1,595	2002 FORD FOCUS 2H0380 4-Door, Need Some TLC, Must See \$1,595
	2002 MERCURY SABLE 4-Door, Clean inside and out, Must See \$2,995

TRIPLE J MOTORS MON-FRI: 8am to 6pm Sat: 8am to 5pm
 Tel: 234-7133 Fax: 234-3052 • Beach Road, Chalan Lau Lau

TRIPLE J CAR MART MON-FRI: 8am to 6pm Sat: 8am to 5pm
 Tel: 235-5065/6 Fax: 234-2326 • Middle Road, Chalan Kiya

* On approved credit. Some conditions apply, see salesperson for details.

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
 State Board of Education
 Public School System
 P.O. Box 501370, Saipan, MP 96950

INVITATION FOR BID
IFB 08-030

The CNMI Public School System is soliciting competitive sealed bids for the **Construction of Fences for Various Head Start Centers** Located in the CNMI. Detailed information on the Scope of Work is available, for a fee of twenty (20) dollars, at the PSS Procurement & Supply Office located on the 3rd floor of the NMI Retirement Fund Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP 96950.

All bids shall be in a sealed envelope face marked "IFB 08-030" containing one (1) original and three (3) copies and shall be submitted to the PSS Procurement and Supply Office no later than June 3, 2008 at 10:00 a.m. Responsibility determination documents shall be placed in a separate envelope marked "IFB 08-030, CONFIDENTIAL - Responsibility Determination", containing one (1) original and one (1) copy). Any proposal after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted under any circumstance.

Technical questions shall be in writing and addressed to Mr. Carl Dela Cruz, Acting Procurement & Supply Officer, via fax # (670) 664-3791. Alternatively, questions may be e-mailed to the following address: delacruz@pss.cnmi.mp.

Contractors are required to submit with their bid, a copy of their valid business license.

The Public School System reserves the right to award single or multiple awards or to reject any or all bids, in whole or in part, if to do so is in the best interest of the Public School System.

All bids shall become the property of the Public School System.

/S/ **Dr. David M. Borja, D.B.A.**
 Commissioner of Education

/S/ **Carl F. Dela Cruz**
 Acting P & S Officer



COMMISSIONING CEREMONY

George Mason University's ROTC Spring 2008 commissioning class, to which Randy Mendoza belongs. Mendoza did his internship at the Department of the Interior's Office of Insular Affairs for about a year.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Randy Mendoza, second from right, during his ROTC commissioning ceremony on May 17, 2008. Mendoza graduated with a bachelor's degree in Economics from George Mason University. In addition, he also specialized in Military Intelligence for the Army National Guard. He is shown here with, from left, Capt. Beffrey, Rhonda, and Racquel Mendoza.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Solomons agency accused of corruption

HONIARA, Solomon Islands (Solomon Times/PIR)—Logging companies in the Solomon Islands have

been accused of robbing the government, the country, and resource owners of millions of dollars over the past 20 years by manipulating the country's determined price system for the export of round logs.

A logger, who chose to remain anonymous, says that he totally supports the recent upward review by the Government of the determined export price for round logs, describing it as "still very unfair on the country and the resource owners."

In response to the threat by the logging companies to withhold their log exports as a way to put pressure on the government to reconsider its decision, the logger said the Government must immediately investigate the administration of log exports by the Forestry Department up until now.

"If the Government carries out a surprise audit of the way the Forestry Department has been administering log exports,

the Government would find massive corruption of the export system initiated by logging companies in the last twenty years," the logger said.

He stated that the corruption involved both corrupting the Forestry Department and deliberate manipulation of the system, enabling loggers to avoid paying for the right level of export duties.

The logger claims that logging companies have been entering lower export price for higher grade logs and bribing forestry officers with money and beer to accept their log export entries, depriving the country of millions of dollars.

"Another method which loggers have been using was to designate some of their log consignments under the category of 'mixed species' which attracts a determined export price of only \$68 US dollar per cubic meter, when in fact the consignment would consist mostly of high grade species which should at-

tract duties as high as \$87.50 to \$98.50 per cubic meter in most cases," the logger said.

"The difference in dollar terms per cubic meter may only be from \$25 to \$30 US dollars per cubic meter, but when you consider the thousands of volumes of round logs logging companies export every year, this can amount to millions of dollars loss to the country and it people every year."

The logger calls on the Government to hold mass meetings with landowners and explain to them that what the Government is doing by revising export prices as it would show to them that it would be good for them and the country.

He further claims that all the logging companies in the country have been committing serious breaches of standard logging agreements with landowners designed by the Government and for which the Commissioner of Forests is the legal custodian.

production, and says it's of concern for the Kiribati Copra Mill, which relies on local coconut for its production.

The Mill produces coconut oil that is made into soaps, lotions, cooking oil, livestock feed, and compost mixture, some of which is exported to South East Asia.

Pacific Forum to examine regional market

WELLINGTON, New Zealand (RNZI/PIR)—The Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat is to study the idea of a single market and economy in the Pacific.

The acting secretary general of the Forum, Feleti Teo, says the creation of a single Pacific market is seen as a potentially important strategic response to overcome the issues of market smallness and isolation.

Teo says the main rationale is to seek a response to the recent crisis in the petroleum market in the Pacific, but he says the study would look into other sectors including pharmaceuticals, as well as part of a phased movement towards a single market.

He says a single market and economy would see the phased creation of a single economic space in the Pacific with member countries would move to eliminate all barriers to trade in goods and services.

Drought decimates Kiribati copra

MELBOURNE, Australia (Radio Australia/PIR)—The Kiribati Government has prepared a strategic plan to intervene if the current drought continues.

President Anote Tong says the government will build desalination plants and will also import water from overseas.

Kiribati has had little rain for more than three years, and most fruit bearing trees are affected, including coconuts, which is the only means of generating revenue on the outer islands through copra production.

The Kiribati Copra Society has reported a major drop in the

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

MAY 27, 1999

Legislators dare rights group to show proof

Northern Marianas lawmakers yesterday shrugged off the latest attack against the Commonwealth after a human rights group accused the island of trafficking and abuse of its foreign workers. They also defended U.S. House Majority Whip Tom DeLay (R-Texas) from criticism of "improperly" using his position to stall legislation that will impose federal takeover of labor and immigrations laws in the CNMI.

Amendment to \$24M CIP bill gains ground in Senate

The Senate will amend the proposed bill appropriating more than \$24 million in capital improvement projects on the three islands, changing provisions on expenditure and reprogramming authority which is expected to draw ire from the Tenorio administration. A Senate session earlier scheduled today where the measure had been included in the calendar for passage was postponed at the last-minute to Tuesday.

Teno: Crackdown on prostitution

Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio yesterday issued fresh calls to police and immigration authorities to clamp down on illegal flesh trade amid reports that prostitutes are back in the main tourist district of Garapan. Residents and businessmen in Garapan have expressed concern of the growing presence of prostitutes which they say tarnishes the image of the area as a wholesome entertainment destination for visitors.

MAY 27, 2002

CPA alerted for possible attacks

The Commonwealth Ports Authority has implemented additional security measures at all CNMI airports in light of the newest terror alert issued by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The additional security measures will subject travelers to a more stringent inspection that includes scanning and inspection of even the smallest objects carried by departing passengers.

Top graduates inspire crowd

Marie Nora P. Coleman and Betty J. Leonard—the valedictorians of the Northern Marianas Colleges' graduates of 2002—didn't exactly meet the profile of a traditional student. In between classes and academic commitments, they were also career and family women, making their way through college alongside students much younger than themselves.

Compliance assured in salary cap dilemma

Contrary to speculations that it may just ignore the Legislature on the issue of salary caps, the Babauta administration stressed that it intends to comply with all statutory requirements and will accede to the Legislature's wishes if it remains adamant on the issue. Lt. Gov. Diego T. Benavente made this assurance Friday, saying that the Office of the Attorney General itself would make sure that the administration works within all legal parameters.

MAY 27, 2003

Teacher: ACT can't force itself

The Association of Commonwealth Teachers could no longer force itself upon teachers or the government because it lacks consent and recognition as the representative of all public school teachers, according to Kagman High School teacher representative Ambrose Bennett. Bennett made the remarks in response to ACT's letter to Gov. Juan N. Babauta, which, he said, is not only disrespectful to teachers but also to the governor's office. "ACT has not only disrespected teachers, ACT is now trying to intimidate your office," said Bennett in his own letter to Babauta yesterday.

Nursing board bypassed on NCLEX order

The Commonwealth Board of Nurse Examiners was not consulted by the government when it issued a directive reaffirming the suspension of the NCLEX requirement for nurses working at the Department of Public Health. Members of the CBNE, in a meeting last Friday, said they only received a formal communication about the directive that same day. "No one asked the board for comments or inputs. The board received it at 10am today (Friday)," said newly re-elected CBNE chair Rosa Tudela. As of Friday, the board said it wanted to get hold of the DPH legal counsel, as well as Public Health Secretary James U. Hofschneider to be enlightened on the issue.



1st Saipan Chamber of Commerce GOLF TOURNAMENT

LAO LAO BAY • WEST COURSE • SATURDAY, MAY 31, 2008

**TWO-PERSON
BEST-BALL**

Early Registration Fee: \$99.00/person
Late Entry After May 28: \$110.00/person
(Inclusive of Green Fee, Prizes, Award Banquet)

Banquet Guests: \$20.00/person

Show Time: 6:30 a.m.

Shotgun Starts: 7:30 a.m.

Low Gross	Low Net (D. Peoria)
1. \$500.00	1. \$500.00
2. \$300.00	2. \$300.00
3. \$200.00	3. \$200.00

Prizes for Straight Drive • Longest Drive • Closest to the Pin
Proceeds to benefit the Chamber's educational efforts

HOLE-IN-ONE SPONSORS

\$25,000

 **Bank of Hawaii**

\$15,000


 TAKAGI & ASSOCIATES, INC.
 Professional Insurance Consultants

\$5,000



Century Insurance Company, Ltd.

**YAMAHA R-6
SPORT BIKE**

 **Joeten Motors**
 POWERED BY YOU

SPONSORS



ASIANA AIRLINES
 A STAR ALLIANCE MEMBER



BANK OF GUAM
 THE PEOPLE'S BANK



**BRIDGE
CAPITAL**



GALLERIA



First Hawaiian Bank

Kautz Glass, Co.



Palms Resort Saipan



**Atalanta
Sosnoff**



White Coconut Computer Services



CARMEN SAFEWAY ENTERPRISES • CENTURY HOTEL • D & Q SAIPAN • MITA TRAVEL • MICROL CORPORATION • PACIFIC EAGLE ENTERPRISES
 SAIPAN GRAND HOTEL • SUMMER HOLIDAY HOTEL • WDI INC. (TONY ROMA'S / CAPRICCIOSA) • WUSHIN CORPORATION • TOOTHWORKS
 WESTERN UNION • HERTZ RENT-A-CAR • SAIPAN TRIBUNE • SAIPAN ICE & WATER • SORENSEN PACIFIC BROADCASTING

GREAT RAFFLE PRIZES: AIRLINE TICKETS, HOTEL STAYS, MEALS, HARD ROCK CAFE LEATHER JACKET...AND MORE!

Award Banquet at Lao Lao immediately following tournament

Double Peoria shall apply to all teams • Must be present to win raffle prizes

Please make checks payable to Saipan Chamber of Commerce • For more information call (670) 233-7150 • e-mail: coordinator@saipanchamber.com

Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XVIII, Issue No. 148Published daily at 2/F CIC Centre,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP, 96950

Lynn A. Knight PUBLISHER

Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR

Mark Rabago ASSISTANT EDITOR

MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Rewarding patriotism

Army Spec. Kendell K. Frederick was killed in late 2005 by a roadside bomb in Iraq. Spec. Frederick, who was born in Trinidad and lived in Maryland, legally came to the United States with his family when he was 15. He was on his way to provide fingerprints for his long-pending citizenship application when he lost his life. Spec. Frederick, 21, was granted U.S. citizenship a week after his death.

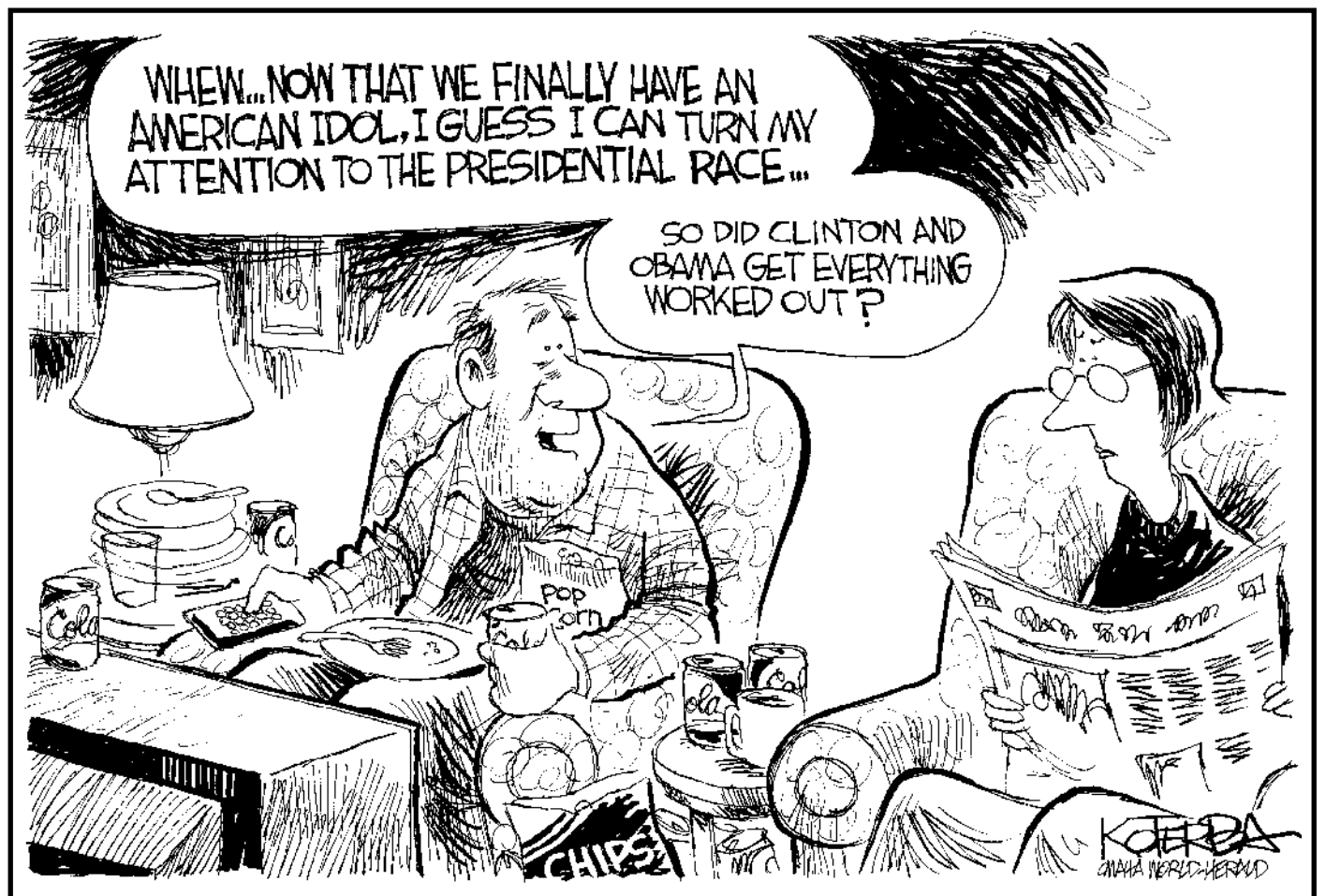
Non-U.S. citizens make up a sizable portion of the modern U.S. armed forces. According to data from the Defense Department, nearly 35,000 non-U.S. citizens have fought in Afghanistan and Iraq in U.S. uniforms; 144 lost their lives there. Some 20,000 men and women born on foreign soil are on active duty in U.S. military branches, and another 13,000 are enrolled in the reserves. Roughly 7,000 non-U.S. citizens who serve in the armed forces are waiting for their citizenship papers to come through.

Since shortly after Spec. Frederick's death, Sen. Barbara A. Mikulski, D-Md., has been working to ensure that the bureaucratic tangles that ensnared his application do not delay the citizenship process for the thousands of other non-U.S. citizens who risk their lives as members of the U.S. armed forces. She was instrumental in establishing a dedicated telephone line for queries from service members at U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, the arm of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) that processes citizenship applications.

Ms. Mikulski also introduced the Kendell Frederick Citizenship Assistance Act, which was sponsored in the House by Rep. Elijah E. Cummings, D-Md. The bill allows the DHS to use fingerprints taken by the Defense Department of every new service member in the citizenship process; previously, service members were not allowed to use their military fingerprints for that purpose. Ms. Mikulski's bill, among other things, also requires that the necessary background check for citizenship be completed within 180 days after an application is filed by a service member. An application must be filed within two years after a non-U.S. citizen enters military service.

The House passed the Citizenship Assistance Act last fall, and it sailed through the Senate in March; the bill is now tied up in conference. Lawmakers should quickly sign off on the bill and send it along to President Bush, who should sign it. It would be a fitting tribute to Kendell Frederick and a well-deserved reward to the thousands of others like him who don the uniform of their adopted country.

© 2008, The Washington Post



A statute in the lobby

Thanks Firefighters

Last week was EMS Week and I hope you had a chance to thank a rescue worker, a firefighter or some other EMS person for the 24-7 protection they provide us with. They are severely undermanned and endure very long duty hours. If you did not attend any of the functions last week you can still stop by any fire station and say thanks to those guys for putting their butts on the line for us. They will appreciate knowing that we appreciate them.

Thanks Veterans. Yesterday was Memorial Day. I took my son up to Marpi for the Veterans Memorial Service. It's hard enough to explain dying to a 3 year old, but explaining why it can sometimes be good taxed my powers of persuasion. Anyway, he enjoyed the marching band and was impressed by the soldiers in uniform. My hat is off to all who have served and paid the ultimate price.

■ ■ ■

He's in the foyer

Saipan Congressman Joseph N. Camacho has introduced legislation (HB 16-96) that attempts to restrict the hiring of lobbyists without the permission of the Legislature. If passed, this law would have the effect of hamstringing this and all future Executive Branch administrations and would give undue powers to the Legislative Branch, the very branch that wants to pass the law.

I should disclose that I am not a detractor of Joe Camacho. In fact I "lobbied" in his favor and worked directly to help his election bid. That does not mean we agree on all issues; we don't. That does mean, though, that I have high regard for Rep. Camacho's abilities and his sense of providing fair and balanced government. In the case of this legislation, however, it seems that Joe has lost part of that sense of balance that is so important in staying off unwarranted concentration of governmental power. This bill is wrong for the CNMI and wrong for any government wanting to provide a limited representative democracy to its people. We citizens should be wary of allowing the Legislative Branch too much leeway in interfering with the Executive Branch. This law would allow way too much.

Hiring consultants and trained lobbyists is a legitimate, albeit expensive, way for smaller regional governments to make their positions known to the massive and often uncaring central U.S. government. It is often the only way to gain favorable action that fosters those local positions and goals. Like it or not, that is how the U.S. system works. We ignore that reality at our peril.

An example might be the most recent case of lobbying in which a specific remedy of \$15 million is sought to offset some of the additional expenses that will be incurred because of federalization of our immigration and labor departments, among other things. (Frankly I think they should have asked for \$50 million or \$100 million, either of which is a pittance to the cash rich U.S. federal treasury). That aside, without asking for the aid and without using a lobbyist to push for that agenda, we are unlikely to get the cash no matter how little it is.

There are some few here, especially those in the pro-federalist camp, that will applaud this legislation as necessary to keep the Ex-

SOUR GRAPES

By BRUCE BATEMAN

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Bruce A. Bateman writes *Sour Grapes* when the moon is full and the mood strikes. Stay tuned for each exciting episode. "Yes, he is opinionated." Email: bbateman@pticom.com; Blog: <http://saipanuvian.blogspot.com/>



ecutive from lobbying against their personal wishes. You can see their vitriolic complaints in that regard spinning across the blog-sphere and their oft repeated letters to the editor. Wait and see, those same folks will be singing a different tune someday if a liberal (excuse me, "progressive") minded governor is elected and decides to push via legitimate lobbying efforts some agenda close to their left leaning hearts and does not have the flexibility to provide essential lobbying efforts to gain that, probably distasteful, result. These same people will be squealing for the right to hire lobbyists then.

So please, Congressmen, don't pass this ill-conceived piece of law. It is not in the best interest of the Commonwealth and will probably wind up hurting you along with everyone else should it become law. Joe Camacho can do better than this.

■ ■ ■

You can't make me

I am planning to join the pack and run for the new non-voting Delegate seat in November. I will run on a simple one-plank platform: I shall not vote! As your non-voting delegate it is my blood oath to you that "I-will-not-vote." Come hell or high water, even if they hold me down and try to make me, I will abstain from voting.

In addition to a platform, all political candidates must make promises. Here are mine:

First, I promise to fly first class wherever I go, and will only stay in the best hotels. I will do both as often as possible. Remember, the CNMI is off the hook. The U.S. government will fund all the expenses and salary for the NVD from now on. So let's stick it to those dumb saps paying taxes out there in Nebraska.

Second, I promise to keep my eyes peeled for an opportunity to sponsor some legislation actually written by some other congressman with an axe to grind or a score to settle. Like Ms. Christensen of the Virgin Islands, I won't care who takes it in the shorts as long as I get some nice benefits tossed to the CNMI in return. I further promise to do it in an underhanded and sneaky way and to bring aboard lots of "advocates" for this and that so the dirty deed looks palatable, even laudable, to average person on the street. Who knows, we may save polar bears, we may grant a munificent living to needy sea slugs (or land slugs), all the while secretly hiding a bill to run Aunt Tilly's Laundromat over in Scotts Bluff out of business because it is competing against the local congressman's Mud Pie and Laundry Emporium.

See A STATUTE on next page

EDITORIAL POLICY

The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, CIC Centre, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Letters to the Editor

Keep your eyes open

I recently ran across a quote from the late Kenya President Jomo Kenyatta who was the first elected president of the African country of Kenya after it claimed independence from British rule. He said, "When the white missionaries came to Kenya, they had Bibles in their hands, we had the land. Then they taught us to pray with our eyes closed. When we opened our eyes, we had Bibles in our hands and they had our land in their hands."

Think about that before you allow anyone to amend or repeal Article 12 of the CNMI Constitution. Maybe you should keep your eyes open when you pray and when you vote. Our lawmakers change the laws to suit their agendas. As for the CNMI Marine Monu-

ment, once the people of the CNMI have decided they want it, and the Feds make it happen, then the lawmakers on Capital Hill (or is it ladera de los Ladrones) cannot change the law at will.

For Mr. Gurley, your May 23, 2008 letter implies that outside influence from various environmental groups distorts the statistical data of the real feelings of the local people concerning their CNMI Marine Monument. Then you cited a bunch of statistics concerning the Hawaiian Monument. What you did not tell everyone is that the local Hawaiians voted overwhelmingly in favor of their monument. And you are correct that environmentalists from the CNMI and outside are voicing their opinions. That is what we do. At

least we are honest and upfront about who we are and what we do. If your water is safe to drink, your air safe to breathe, your car gets 30+ mpg, you are safe when you swim at the beach and your fish is safe to eat, thank an environmentalist. Oh yeah, I made that stuff up about Hawaiian voters. Who knows how they voted? See how easy it is to write fiction or misinformation and the people think it is the truth. At least I tell the reader when I make something up out of nothing.

For Mr. Richard Seman, about your letter "Leave all conservation measures to the people of the CNMI," yeah right. Maybe you did not notice the signs on the sides of numerous vehicles of DEQ, DLNR, F&W, CRM,

etc. Someone has painted "Federally Funded." All of the CNMI's conservation projects are mostly the result of federal funding. CNMI got jobs and money out of it. If you do not like Pew's proposal, write your own, get everyone to agree and we can take that to the President. The administration has had over six months since this issue has come up to propose what they would like to do. They have done taya, zip, nada, nothing but to say no. The governor unilaterally without any public hearings rejected the proposal. The people did not choose. And outsiders do not have a vote. Maybe you think we are not intelligent enough to decide what is best for ourselves, our families, and our futures and the fu-

ture of the CNMI. Get over your hubris and xenophobia.

Unlike Mr. Gurley, I have no "Bible" of facts or whatever that I want you to read. Unlike Mr. Seman, I am not a lackey of the governor and he cannot fire me for opposing viewpoint. For everyone else, keep your minds and eyes open for there are thieves about that want your fish and your land or whatever else they can take from you. Since the administration has had no public hearings on this matter, write a letter. Tell us, for or against, how you feel and why about your CNMI Marine Monument.

Brad Doerr
San Roque, Saipan

Tinian teachers and students need help

Teachers seem to face a continuous challenge to keep their jobs on Tinian. Are the expectations that high or are these teachers just that bad? Which is true? This is not the first time there have been concerns about the teacher turnover rate on Tinian and history is usually the best place to begin looking for the origins of the problem. If we look at the history of Tinian Jr. / High School the average turnover rate is more than six teachers per year. But let's do the math: six teachers represents 31.6 percent of the workforce multiplied by three years equals a 94.8 percent turnover rate every three years. What does that say about teacher quality, structure, expectations, stability and improving the teacher workforce?

Structure, stability, standard expectations, quality and improvement

depends on a stable workforce. But the turnover rate we are experiencing throughout the CNMI (60 percent plus every five years) has created a shuffle board of the teaching workforce. We can't even identify a permanent set of "Master Teachers" or come close to having a stable workforce under the HQT requirement of NCLB. Oh, I forgot we don't give teachers permanent contracts and maybe that's why we can't keep teachers.

There is something wrong on Tinian and I'm not going to take sides because I obviously don't know all the facts. If these teachers are not HQT, then it's obvious their days were numbered. But if they are HQTs, then someone needs to looking long, hard and deep into this matter before sending these teachers on their merry way.

But it's hard to ignore the pattern of teacher terminations at Tinian Jr/High Schools and considering the many comments I have gotten as the Teacher Rep over the years about the leadership, it's time for the leadership to change their methodology or it's time for them to go. I say this because I do know one thing for a fact: "The principal has refused to allow the teachers to use the NMI history textbook" and the reason given to me by teachers who no longer work there was "a feud with the author." I'm sure the people of Tinian can authenticate this fact but more important is that the children on Tinian are being subjected to a sub-standard education in their own history, all because of a personal feud done dragged the kids into it. We call it insubordination which is cause for

termination but I've been told she has the right last name and knows the right people. I even reported this behavior to the COE but she was given the latitude of "alternative resources" to meet the standards. But I'm still wondering how a required textbook by Board of Education policy can be so boldly refused the students. Wake up parents, the COE and the Board! Every Social Studies teacher in the CNMI will tell you that the NMI History textbook is the only complete resource on the history of the Marianas but the children on Tinian will never even see the book under the present leadership.

In defense of the Board, the Chairwoman is right to remain silent, especially when the Board may be forced to intervene in the matter. But the Board does have a fiduciary duty to

look into what is clearly a policy violation. The COE seems to think the terminations are valid and personnel matters are not open for public discussion so we can only hope he is right. But I hope he will look at the history of Tinian's teacher turnover rate, especially after it was already a concern of the last Board. He may also want to ask and answer the question as to why the turnover rate is not the same at the elementary, which should be very revealing, given both schools are operating under the same conditions. But these teachers deserve some kind of due process and not just a decision on something written by the principal that can't be substantiated.

Ambrose M. Bennett
Kagman, Saipan

An unjustified attack on guest workers

A letter to the editor directed to me as a response to my comments that were requested by a local paper provided a weak and unsubstantiated defense for the CNMI Department of Labor's unfair labor policies and practices. But worse, it represented another unjustified attack on the guest workers.

More shameful is the fact that Cinta Kaipat wrote the letter in her official capacity as Deputy Secretary of the CNMI Department of Labor, a government agency. Since last year she has publicly made hostile remarks and generalizations about the CNMI guest workers. Many advocates, guest work-

ers, attorneys, and public officials consider some of the remarks as extremely inappropriate, and even racist. She has made it very clear that she does not appreciate or respect the foreign contract workers. In December she was quoted as saying, "Foreign workers who can't stand the local labor system can leave." She made hostile generalizations in an antagonistic and unformed analysis of H.B. 16-86 that was also published in the local papers. Again, in the public letter that she addressed to me, she repeatedly attacked the integrity and honesty of the guest workers.

I question whether a person who has

made as many negative and hostile remarks against the guest workers as the Deputy Secretary has should be employed by a department that determines their status, and makes important decisions that affect their livelihood and survival.

It is clear that the Department of Labor needs to be investigated. There are serious questions with DOL policies including the practice of notice of hearings by publication; shifting the responsibility of enforcing administrative orders to those who are the victims that have been cheated by violating employers; forcing guest workers with pending

claims to depart, or denying them work authorizations; having appeals heard by the same hearing officer who heard the original case; restrictions on employees' immediate family members remaining in the CNMI; and allowing an unofficial department "volunteer" to hear cases, speak on behalf of a government agency, and draft policy.

A public apology is owed to all of the CNMI guest workers by the Deputy Secretary and by the Department of Labor, the government department that she represented when she made the hostile generalizations and improper, hurtful statements.

All guest workers with labor cases or problems can seek assistance from the federal ombudsman's office if they cannot afford a private attorney. The phone number is 322-8030. The office is at the Mariana Heights II Building, Suite 203, Middle Road.

A point by point response to Ms. Kaipat's letter to the editor will be sent to the Director of the Department of Labor, Mr. Barry Hirshbein, and will be posted on the website Unheard No More!

Wendy L. Doromal
via e-mail

A STATUTE

From Page 10

Who knows what kind of devilment-for-profit we can come up with. (Sorry, Cornhuskers, if I seem to be picking on you. Feel free to substitute "Kansas" and "Coogan's Bluff" if you so choose).

Third, I will bring home the bacon. I will sponsor one or more pork barrel bills designed to bring some of that U.S. loot back here to the CNMI. We should be able to shake those funding trees and get a few hundred million to drop out and be tossed our way easy.

Fourth, at the taxpayer's expense I will send you some great looking but totally fictional reports on what I've

accomplished while there. They will be on glossy paper with lots of charts, graphs and pictures.

Fifth, I will not subject you to the embarrassment of being seen around Washington in a cowboy hat. A beret, even a Scottish tam, but never a cowboy hat.

Sixth, I also promise to have my picture taken 10 times per day and send it to all the papers here in the CNMI for publication.

Okay, so much for promises. I'll come up with some more later to give you a good reason to cast a vote my way. If I keep throwing spaghetti promises against the wall one or more are likely to be favorable to you and will perhaps persuade you to shove that vote up my ballot box once in the pri-

vacy of the voting booth.

Some politicians promise to be transparent good little girls and boys, some promise to improve your life with grandiose public works, some promise you a job due to economic upturns, etc, etc. All those promises are made to be broken and most, sure enough, will be broken, mine included. Remember though, whatever else happens... I WILL NOT VOTE!

There will be 30 or 40 people vying for this position. Why not? It pays a buck seventy a year. Contract deliverables are...nothing. You can pretend to do this job and run a profitable business on the side in your spare time. It has lots of prestige...you can put on your resumé later that you dazzled 'em in the halls of Congress. (Literally in the halls because they

won't let us NVDs into the actual voting chamber). You're almost certain to come back rich after a few years of cutting side deals in D.C. So please don't be distracted by posers. Plenty are running but only one is really qualified to not vote. Cast your vote for the guy who absolutely will not vote. Me.

One other thing. We need to have a political party in order to look like a serious candidate for election. Independent is so trite and overused. Instead, I am forming the All Night Party. You can send your donations (in an unmarked brown envelope) to:

The Bruce to Monte Carlo Fund
PO Box 2 or 3

Twisted Sense of Humor (Right next to Truth or Consequences)

New Mexico 77666

■ ■ ■






Quote of the week: Lobbyists are in many cases expert technicians and capable of explaining complex and difficult subjects in a clear, understandable fashion. They engage in personal discussions with members of Congress in which they can explain in detail the reasons for the positions they advocate. Because our congressional representation is based on geographical boundaries, the lobbyists who speak for the various economic, commercial, and other functional interests of this country serve a very useful purpose and have assumed an important role in the legislative process.

—John F. Kennedy (1917 – 1963)

Sattelite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. Southeast winds 10 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. Southeast winds 10 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲86° ▼76°	▲86° ▼76°	▲86° ▼76°	▲87° ▼76°	▲86° ▼75°

Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	▲86 ▼76
Palau	Mostly Cloudy	▲85 ▼77
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲85 ▼77
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲88 ▼78
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	▲84 ▼74
Kosrae	Mostly Cloudy	▲87 ▼75
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲82 ▼73

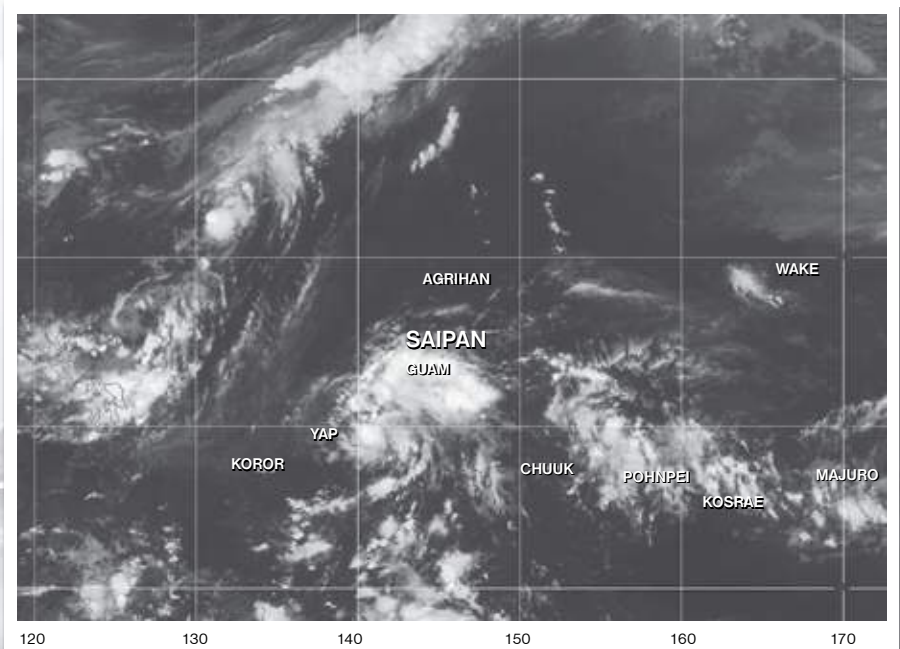
Around The Globe

Auckland	Cloudy	▲60 ▼48
Beijing	Sunny	▲84 ▼57
Hong Kong	Thunderstorms	▲84 ▼77
Honolulu	Partly Sunny	▲81 ▼73
London	Showers	▲74 ▼61
Los Angeles	Mostly Cloudy	▲72 ▼56
Manila	Thunderstorms	▲86 ▼77
Melbourne	Thunderstorms	▲59 ▼50
Miami	Mostly Sunny	▲85 ▼73
New York	Thundershowers	▲77 ▼55
Osaka	Mostly Sunny	▲84 ▼60
Paris	Rain	▲68 ▼63
Pusan	Partly Sunny	▲73 ▼64
Rome	Mostly Sunny	▲91 ▼63
Salem	Showers	▲69 ▼53
San Francisco	Partly Sunny	▲68 ▼52
Seoul	Showers	▲77 ▼59
Tokyo	Mostly Sunny	▲74 ▼60
Washington, DC	Thundershowers	▲83 ▼60

Tides

Saipan Harbor		
1:24AM Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet
7:15AM Today	Low Tide:	1.2 Feet
11:17AM Today	High Tide:	1.5 Feet
6:42PM Today	Low Tide:	0.1 Feet

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, MONDAY, MAY 26, 2008
Western North Pacific between Equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A disturbance southeast of Okinawa centered near 22N133E is causing scattered showers and a few thunderstorms between 21N and 25N from 131E to 133E. A well-defined surface trough stretches eastward from 4N135E to 6N143E, then north-northeastward to 15N146E over the southern Marianas. This feature is generating scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms over a large area that includes Guam, Rota and Yap bounded by a line from eq146E to 3N135E to 5N135E to 15N140E to 15N148E to 10N148E to 10N143E back to eq146E. Trade-wind convergence is producing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms over Pohnpei and Kosrae but east of Chuuk and south of the Marshall Islands or within 150 miles of a line that extends from 12N151E to 3N170E to 2N180.

Sunrise/Sunset

	Today	5:46AM	6:42PM
Wednesday	5:46AM	6:43PM	
Thursday	5:46AM	6:43PM	
Friday	5:46AM	6:43PM	
Saturday	5:46AM	6:44PM	

Moonrise/Moonset

	Today	11:25AM
Wednesday	12:16AM	12:16PM
Thursday	12:54AM	1:08PM
Friday	1:32AM	2:02PM
Saturday	2:12AM	2:58PM

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

- PICTURES**
 - ISLAND SNAPSHOTS**
Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
 - BIRTHDAY GREETINGS**
A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
 - BUSINESS**
Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
 - SAMUT SARI**
Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
 - TRAVELOGUE**
Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS

- Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN**
Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

- For pictures:**
 - Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
 - Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
 - Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
 - Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
 - For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

- For announcements:**
 - Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

- the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.
- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, CIC Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
- To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

POLICY

- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website: www.saipantribune.com.

CUSTOMER SERVICE For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

SUBSCRIPTION Published Monday to Sunday, Saipan Tribune offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of \$182. Off-island subscription rate is \$376 per year. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF APRIL 8, 2008

DEPARTURES	ARRIVALS
Saipan-Rota CO 9313 8:30am 9:05am 3,4,7	Rota-Saipan CO 9598 11:10am 11:45am 1,2,6
Saipan-Guam CO9317 4:00am 4:50am Daily CO9597 8:30am 9:20am 1,2,5,6 CO9313 8:30am 10:00am 3,4,7 via Rota CO9601 12:30pm 1:20pm Daily CO9603 3:30pm 4:20pm Daily CO9605 6:30pm 7:20pm Daily CO9599 9:30pm 10:20pm Daily	Guam-Saipan CO 9316 2:30am 3:20am Daily CO9596 7:00am 7:50am Daily CO9598 10:15am 11:45am 1,2,6 via Rota CO9600 10:45am 11:35am 3,4,5,7 CO9602 2:00pm 2:50pm Daily CO9604 5:00pm 5:50pm Daily CO9606 8:00pm 8:50pm Daily
Saipan-Narita NW 078 8:40am 2:00pm Daily via Nagoya NW 075 4:45pm 7:25pm Daily	Narita-Saipan NW 076 10:15am 2:50pm Daily NW 077 6:25pm 1:25am+1 Daily via Nagoya
Saipan-Osaka NW 083 4:20pm 7:10pm Daily	Osaka-Saipan NW 084 10:30am 3:05pm Daily
Saipan-Nagoya NW 078 8:40am 11:25am Daily	Nagoya-Saipan NW 077 9:00pm 1:25am+1 Daily
Saipan-Manila CO 895 4:45pm 6:35pm 6 CO 895 6:45pm 8:35pm 3	Manila-Saipan CO 890 9:15am 2:55pm 6 CO 890 11:45am 5:35pm 3
Saipan-Seoul OZ 604 2:20am 6:00am 1 OZ 604 2:50am 6:30am 2,3,4,5,6,7 OZ 606 3:30pm 7:00pm 2,4,6,7	Seoul-Saipan OZ 605 9:00am 2:30pm 2,4,6,7 OZ 603 7:40pm 1:10am+1 7 OZ 603 8:10pm 1:40am+1 1,2,3,4,5,6
Saipan-Busan OZ 608 3:50am 7:20am 1,4,5,7	Busan-Saipan OZ 607 9:30pm 2:50am+1 3,4,6,7
Guam-Manila CO 891 6:00am 10:30am 3 via Yap and Koror CO 893 6:30am 8:05am 6 CO 893 8:25am 10:00am 2,7 CO 893 5:50pm 9:10pm 5 via Koror CO 933 7:00pm 8:40pm Daily PR 111 6:00am 7:45am 1,2,4,6,7	Manila-Guam CO 894 11:20am 4:55pm 2,7 CO 894 7:45pm 1:20am+1 6 CO 892 9:45pm 6:30am+1 3 via Koror and Yap CO 892 10:10pm 5:30am+1 5 via Koror CO 934 10:55pm 4:30am+1 Daily PR 110 10:15pm 4:00am+1 1,3,5,6,7
Saipan-Guanzhou CZ 3008 5:00am 8:00am 2,6	Guanzhou-Saipan CZ 3007 8:00pm 4:00am+1 1,5
Guam-Hongkong CO 909 6:40pm 9:25pm 1,5	Hongkong-Guam CO 910 10:35pm 5:15am+1 1,5
Guam-Rota CO 9598 10:15am 10:45am 1,2,6	Rota-Guam CO 9313 9:30am 10:00am 3,4,7

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CO: Continental; PR: Philippine Airlines; CZ: China Southern; CA: Air China; NW: Northwest; JO: Japan Airlines; OZ: Asiana; MU: China Eastern
ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency	Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota				FRE 113	11:40am	11:50am	Daily
FRE 100	7:00am	7:30am	Daily	FRE 115	1:00pm	1:10pm	Daily
Rota-Saipan				FRE 117	2:30pm	2:40pm	Daily
FRE 100	7:50am	8:20am	Daily	FRE 119	4:00pm	4:10pm	Daily
Saipan-Rota				FRE 121	4:40pm	4:50pm	Daily
FRE 200	9:00am	9:30am	Daily	FRE 123 *	5:40pm	5:50pm	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 125 *	6:00pm	6:10pm	Daily
FRE 200	9:50am	10:15am	Daily	Tinian-Saipan w/ connecting flights to Rota or Guam**			
Guam-Rota				FRE 102	7:05am	7:15am	Daily
FRE 300	4:00pm	4:30pm	Daily	FRE 104	7:50am	8:00am	Daily
Rota-Saipan				FRE 106**	8:20am	8:30am	Daily
FRE 300	4:50pm	5:25pm	Daily	FRE 108**	9:00am	9:10am	Daily
Saipan-Rota				FRE 110	10:00am	10:10am	Daily
FRE 400	6:00pm	6:30pm	Daily	FRE 112	11:05am	11:15am	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 114	12:00pm	12:10pm	Daily
FRE 400	6:45pm	7:15pm	Daily	FRE 116	1:30pm	1:40pm	Daily
Saipan-Tinian				FRE 118	2:50pm	3:00pm	Daily
FRE 101	6:45am	6:55am	Daily	FRE 120**	4:20pm	4:30pm	Daily
FRE 103	7:30am	7:40am	Daily	FRE 122**	5:00pm	5:10pm	Daily
FRE 105	8:00am	8:10am	Daily	FRE 124	6:05pm	6:15pm	Daily
FRE 107	8:40am	8:50am	Daily	FRE 126	6:20pm	6:30pm	Daily
FRE 109*	9:10am	9:20am	Daily				
FRE 111*	10:45am	10:55am	Daily				



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

- Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:
- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
 - *11 on any PTI cellular phone
 - Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Island Snapshots



MEMORIAL DAY
Rear Adm. William French, Commander Naval Forces Marianas and keynote speaker in yesterday's Memorial Day ceremony, poses with ranking Commonwealth officials led by Lt. Gov. Timothy Villagomez at the CNMI Veterans Cemetery in Marpi.

JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ

Small American flags are on display at the CNMI Veterans Cemetery in Marpi during yesterday's observance of Memorial Day.



CUC EXPLAINS
Commonwealth Utilities Corp. executive director Antonio Muna answers question from members of the Legislature during Wednesday's meeting at the House Chamber on Capital Hill.

JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ



PROMOTION CEREMONY
Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary School principal Charlotte Camacho congratulates Ezra Justice Dirking Lizama for receiving the Commissioner's Award, Leadership Award and Presidential Awards for Educational Achievement for Reading, Language Arts & Writing, Social Studies and Science while Education Commissioner David M. Borja and CNMI Board of Education Chair Lucy Blanco-Maratita look on during the school's 6th Grade Promotional Ceremony Thursday morning.

JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ



HAPPY BIRTHDAY
Happy birthday greetings go out to Evner Samuel, who turns 16 today, May 27. Greetings come from your Life In The Son Christian Fellowship family.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



HAPPY BIRTHDAY
Belated happy birthday greetings go out to Lola, who celebrated her 89th birthday on Sunday, May 25, 2008. Greetings come from the family.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



MARINE MONUMENT
William Aila, of Na Imi Pono one of Hawaii's leading environmental organizations, a fisherman, educator, co-founder of the Hawai'i Fishermen's Foundation, and community spokesman for Pacific Fisheries Coalition, speaks about the marine monument in Hawaii during the Saipan Rotary Club's regular Tuesday meeting at the Hyatt Regency's Giovanni's restaurant.

JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ



MEMORIAL WEEK
Lt. Gov. Timothy P. Villagomez signs the proclamation for Memorial Week while a poster is displayed inside the governor's conference room on Capital Hill Wednesday. The proclamation urges the community to pause for the National Moment of Remembrance at 3pm on Memorial Day, May 26, 2008.

JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ



JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ

Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary School students hug and give flowers to their parents as they pay tribute for their guidance and love during the GTC 6th Grade Promotional Ceremony Thursday morning.



JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ

SENATE SESSION
Sen. Henry H. San Nicolas confers with Sen. Joseph M. Mendiola while Sen. Paterno S. Hocog and Sen. Maria T. Pangelinan review some documents during Thursday's Senate session on Capital Hill.

Business

Gasoline isn't only rising cost for drivers

WASHINGTON (AP)—Does filling the gas tank leave your wallet empty and spirit sputtering? Get used to both because almost everything car-related is costing more.

From oil changes to parking lot fees, sticker shock will make this summer even stickier.

"Everything is more expensive," said Raj Amber, a partner at AAA Limousine in Alexandria, Va., bemoaning the recent oil change cost increase to \$30, up from \$25.

Amber's frustration is common among consumers facing \$4 a gallon for gasoline, \$45 a day for car rentals that cost \$31 last year, and bigger bills from mechanics, tire shops and parking garages. Cost-fighting tactics are somewhat schizophrenic: vigilant tune ups to stave off new car purchases or bare-minimum crucial fixes combined with a hope-for-the-best mentality.

Fuel remains the single biggest expense for car owners over the lifetime of a vehicle at about 30 percent of costs, followed closely by depreciation and insurance. But the prices for maintenance and repairs, which combined account for less than 10 percent of an automobile's costs, are creeping up.

Travel agency AAA estimates that the average cost of owning and operating a car in 2008 will be \$8,121, up from \$7,823 last year.



Donna Wiench, of Beaverton, Wash., refuels her hybrid car at a downtown Vancouver, Wash., gas station Thursday morning, May 22, 2008. Regular unleaded gasoline jumped to \$4.09 a gallon at the station.

"Purchases I'm making for our cars now are all driven by a preventative mentality," said Tony Farrell, a freelance writer in Richmond, Va., who has a 2001 minivan and a 20-year-old Honda Civic he had considered selling. "A year ago, I would have let it run ragged. Now I want that car in good working order because I want it to last."

Mirwais Niaz, manager of a

Midas franchise in Arlington, Va., said many customers are opting for the most basic repairs, trying to buy time and save for more expensive work.

For example, a recent Midas customer whose car needed extensive brake work told Niaz: "I don't care about the squeaking, just do something so the car stops." Another customer, whose car needed a transmis-

sion fluid flush asked if it could last another three months without the \$159 service since gas prices had sapped his funds.

Shell Oil subsidiary Jiffy Lube has seen its car count drop by roughly 2 percent in the last year as gas prices have surged and new vehicle technology gives drivers a better idea of when maintenance is needed, said Lisa Carlson, global direc-

tor of marketing for Jiffy Lube International.

The dollar's decreased value, which makes imports more expensive, is an important factor driving up prices for oil, steel and other raw materials used in auto parts, said Harry Veryser, an economist at the University of Detroit Mercy and former chairman of an automotive parts supplier.

Report: Buffet says US is already in recession

BERLIN (AP)—Warren Buffett, whose business and investment acumen has made him one of the world's wealthiest men, said in an interview published Sunday he believes the U.S. economy is already in a recession.

Asked by Germany's Der Spiegel weekly whether he

thinks the U.S. could still avoid a recession, he said that as far as the average person is concerned, it's already here.

"I believe that we are already in a recession," Buffett was quoted by Spiegel as saying. "Perhaps not in the sense as defined by economists. ... But people are already feeling the

effects of a recession."

"It will be deeper and longer than what many think," he added.

The 77-year-old chairman and chief executive of Berkshire Hathaway Inc. was in Europe last week for what he called a "deferred shopping tour," looking for possible acquisitions.

Omaha-based Berkshire has about \$35 billion in cash and is looking to invest. Berkshire's subsidiaries include insurance, clothing, furniture, natural gas, corporate jet and candy companies. Berkshire also has major investments in such companies as Coca-Cola Co. and Anheuser-Busch Cos.



Buffet

Airlines ponder how far they can push customers

DALLAS (AP)—Higher fares and new fees are irritating air travelers, but airlines still can't raise money or cut flights fast enough to cover ever-higher fuel prices.

In the view of airline executives and analysts, the industry is facing its toughest challenge yet, with little prospect that carriers can return to profits anytime soon.

Even though most of the big airline companies have large cash stockpiles, analysts suggest they could burn through their cash and go bankrupt by early next year. Already, several smaller airlines have filed for bankruptcy protection or simply shut down in recent months.

"This is worse than 9-11," said Ray Neidl, an analyst with Calyon Securities. After the 2001 terror attacks, "at least you knew passengers were coming back. Oil at \$130 is unsolvable."

Among the largest airlines, analysts rate US Airways as the most likely to be pushed into bankruptcy, followed by United Airlines parent UAL Corp.

Investors will return from holiday with same fears

NEW YORK (AP)—The three-day weekend probably didn't bring much relaxation to investors if they stopped at a gas station on the way to the beach or a barbecue.

With the average roadside price of gasoline pushing \$3.88 a gallon—and going for well over \$4 at filling stations in some parts of the country—energy prices have become a prime worry in the stock market.

That's not to say other concerns have dissipated. As Wall Street heads into this shortened week, it remains anxious about the still-slumping housing market, not to mention the ailing financial services sector. But so much of the economy's performance later in the year will depend on energy costs, so the focus will be on crude until investors see a substantial price retreat.

What's particularly troubling about oil's rise is that everyone knows it will affect the economy, but no one is sure exactly how. Experts are split over whether it will cause broad-based inflation, further economic weakness, or both at the same time.

EXCHANGE RATES	
DOLLAR	PESO
\$1.00	= P43.635

BUSINESS BRIEFS

J.R. Simplot, potato and computer chip king, dies

BOISE, Idaho (AP)—Billionaire J.R. Simplot, the spud king of America whose wealth also helped create one of the world's biggest computer chip makers, died Sunday at his Boise home. He was 99. Ada County Coroner Erwin Sonnenberg said Simplot apparently died of natural causes. The quintessential Idaho farmer increasingly dominated the state's business and political landscape for 70 years, and the company that bears his name remains a powerful force today—in Idaho and beyond. Simplot and his family were ranked at No. 80 on Forbes magazine's 2006 list of richest Americans, with an estimated wealth of \$3.2 billion.

UK's largest union to join United Steelworkers

LONDON (AP)—Britain's largest union is merging with United Steelworkers, creating the first trans-Atlantic

labor organization, the two labor groups said Sunday. UNITE, which represents more than 2 million workers in Britain's transportation, energy and public sectors, among others, is set to join United Steelworkers, which has some 850,000 members in the United States, Canada and the Caribbean. UNITE spokesman Andrew Murray said "the finishing touches" were worked out at a meeting between UNITE and Steelworkers representatives last week. The unions have joined forces because both have been left behind by globalization, Murray said.

Fed: Further rate cuts unlikely

WASHINGTON (AP)—Sounding a gong couldn't have made it clearer. Federal Reserve officials are putting out the word that further interest rate cuts are unlikely. Fed Governor Kevin Warsh ditched the central bank's cryptic word tangles and actually waxed poetic. "Even if the econo-

my were to weaken somewhat further, we should be inclined to resist expected, reflexive calls to trot out the hammer again," Warsh said, referring to the Fed's key interest rate. The Fed's No. 2 official, Vice Chairman Donald Kohn, said the current stance of interest-rate policy "appears to be appropriately calibrated for now."

G8 ministers endorse greenhouse gas cuts by 2050

KOBE, Japan (AP)—Environmental ministers from the world's top industrial countries say they have the political will to move toward cutting greenhouse gas emissions in half by 2050. However, the announcement Monday by ministers meeting in Japan stopped short of setting a more contentious goal of slashing emissions by 2020. The G8 statement said that rich nations have the responsibility to take the lead in cutting emissions. The statement is aimed at setting the stage for

the Group of Eight summit in Japan in July. Some G8 members had pushed for a commitment on a 2020 target.

High gas prices give boost to small town bus plant

PEMBINA, N.D. (AP)—Soaring fuel prices are proving to be a pain for most people in the country, but they may have helped save the jobs of hundreds of workers in North Dakota's oldest town. The Motor Coach Industries plant is the biggest employer in Pembina—about a quarter the residents in the town of 640 work there. Four years ago, it was struggling to stay open. Now, as more people across the U.S. shun gas-guzzling vehicles for public transportation, bus ridership is up. Transit systems from Houston to New York City are mulling expansion to keep pace. "The bus industry is healthy right now—it's in a good place," said Michael Melaniphy, a Motor Coach Industries Inc. vice president.

Nation

Storms kill 8 in Iowa and Minnesota

DES MOINES, Iowa (AP)—Severe thunderstorms packing large hail and tornadoes rumbled across the nation's midsection on Sunday, killing at least eight people and damaging dozens of homes, authorities said.

Iowa Homeland Security administrator Dave Miller said seven of the dead were killed by a tornado in northeast Iowa - five from Parkersburg, 80 miles northeast of Des Moines, and two from nearby New Hartford. At least 50 injuries were reported.

"Occasionally we have a death but we have warning system. Seven deaths. It's been a long time since we've had those kinds of injuries and deaths reported," Miller said.

Witnesses reported parts of Parkersburg - particularly the town's south side - were reduced to rubble, including most of the town's high school and homes.

A tornado also struck just to the east in the nearby town of Dunkerton and elsewhere in Black Hawk County, where there were reports of homes damaged or destroyed. Dunkerton has fewer than 800 residents and New Hartford has about 700 people.

Iowa Gov. Chet Culver issued a disaster proclamation for Black Hawk, Buchanan and Butler counties, a move that helps coordination between state and local authorities.

Miller said homeland security officials are monitoring reports of storms throughout Iowa. In the Des Moines area, there was heavy rain and lightning Sunday night with wind gusts of 70 mph.

At least 20 people were unaccounted for in Minnesota after a swift storm blew through the St. Paul suburb of Hugo, damaging about four dozen homes, City Administrator Mike Eric-

son said. Many of the residents could be out of town for the holiday weekend, he said.

A 2-year-old child was killed and the child's sibling was critically injured and taken to Regions Hospital in St. Paul, Washington County Sheriff Bill Hutton said. The children's parents also were hospitalized with injuries sustained in the family home.

"It's horrible," Ericson said. "The citizens are very shook and scared." Gov. Tim Pawlenty announced plans to meet with city officials and tour the storm-ravaged city on Monday.

Residents reported a tornado touching down in the area, but that hadn't been confirmed by the National Weather Service. Emergency crews descended on the town to look for those who hadn't been accounted for and to assess the damage.



Debris covers the site of several homes after a powerful storm swept through Hugo, Minn. on Sunday, May 25, 2008. AP

Motorcycle group presses Bush on veterans benefits

WASHINGTON (AP)—Members of the Rolling Thunder motorcycling group roared into town for a White House visit Sunday, where they presented President Bush with his own cowhide vest jacket and pushed for increased veterans benefits.

"Mr. President, we'd like to make you an honorary member of Rolling Thunder," said Artie Muller, the group's executive director, to a delighted Bush, who shed his suit jacket to don the vest and pose for pictures.

"You've done a lot for the country, and the troops appreciate you, and the veterans ap-

preciate you, and your president appreciates you," Bush told the group.

For 21 years now, Rolling Thunder has led a "Ride for Freedom" along the National Mall during Memorial Day weekend, a full-throttle demonstration in support of soldiers held captive or missing in action. On Sunday, riders began at the Pentagon, rode across the Memorial Bridge and gathered at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

Rolling Thunder members also revved their engines up to the White House's driveway along with several of the presi-

dent's aides. Bush, who was returning in his chopper back from Camp David, greeted members near the South Lawn. Bush said "it was a magnificent sight" to see the thousands of motorcyclists come to the nation's capital to pay tribute to veterans.

Bush said he saw Muller's "brothers and sisters cranking up their machines and driving through the nation's capital, many of them have got the flag on the back. And I am just so honored to welcome you back." The group has visited the White House more than half a dozen times in previous years.

Soldier-brothers see all sides of war

HOLCOMBE, Wis. (AP)—Mitch Bocik waddles to the putting green, his legs bent and unsteady, his putter doubling as a cane. For balance, his left hand grips the right shoulder of D.J. Engel, his half brother and almost constant companion.

Enjoying a round of golf, the two are home from war, taking care of each other just as they did that dreadful day in Iraq when a roadside bomb blew apart their lives as Army soldiers.

Bocik misses his 15-foot putt, leaving it short. Engel picks up the ball, helping again.

The 22-year-old Bocik is paralyzed from the knees down. Lucky, he says, to be alive and able to even crudely walk. He sometimes falls, but says, "It is not that big a deal."

Engel, 26, deals with emotional scars—and some guilt. It was just months after he had encouraged his little brother to



Mitch Bocik, left, gets help walking on a green as he plays golf with his half-brother D.J. Engel, Tuesday, May 6, 2008, in Holcombe, Wis. AP

join the Army that he rushed to rescue him from a mangled Army vehicle, thinking he was probably dead.

Today, they live together in a new home in northern Wisconsin filled with modern conveniences, including a 55-inch flat screen TV, big-boy toys like snowmobiles, and medals from their tour in Iraq. They are young men who have lived the horrors of war as Army Reservists called to active duty and are moving on together.

"We have gone through hell," Engel says.

"Hell on earth," Bocik agrees.

Bocik, once a high school basketball star who averaged 21 points and eight rebounds a game, now goes daily for physical therapy to strengthen his legs and hopes to play wheelchair basketball. He would like to become a banker.

Engel works full-time as a prison corrections officer, though he is preparing to go back to Iraq again in November.

Clinton speaks of faith in face of adversity

HORMIGUEROS, Puerto Rico (AP)—Hillary Rodham Clinton on Sunday offered a spiritual defense for continuing her presidential campaign, as she sought to put to rest the uproar over her comments about the assassination of Robert F. Kennedy.

Speaking to a full congregation at the Pabellon de la Victoria evangelical church, Clinton spoke in measured terms about faith in the face of adversity.

"There isn't anything we cannot do together if we seek God's blessing and if we stay committed and are not deterred by the setbacks that often fall in every life," Clinton said.

Clinton is campaigning for Puerto Rico's primary on June 1, which offers 55 pledged delegates to the national Democratic convention. The New York senator is expected to win the contest, thanks partly to her ties to the large Puerto Rican com-

munity in her home state.

Clinton spoke of her determination to stay in the race despite trailing Illinois Sen. Obama by nearly 200 delegates, with 2,026 needed to win the party's nomination. Obama was about 50 delegates short of the number needed to clinch—and Clinton says she will keep going until one of them does.

"If I had listened to those who had been talking over the last several months we

would not be having this campaign in Puerto Rico today," she said, alluding to calls during the past few months for her to drop out of the race and support Obama.

"But I believe this is an opportunity unlike any in recent history for the needs and interests and diversity of the people of Puerto Rico to be in the spotlight. This is an opportunity to educate everyone about this wonderful place," Clinton said.



Asia

China aftershock destroys 71K homes; 6 killed

CHENGDU, China (AP)—A powerful aftershock destroyed tens of thousands of homes in central China on Sunday, killing six people and straining recovery efforts from the country's worst earthquake in three decades. More than 500 others were injured.

Meanwhile, soldiers rushed with explosives to unblock a debris-clogged river threatening to flood homeless quake survivors.

The fresh devastation came after a magnitude 6.0 aftershock—among the most powerful recorded since the initial May 12 quake, according to the U.S. Geological Survey. The China National Seismic Network said the aftershock was the strongest of dozens in the nearly two weeks after the disaster.

The new tremor killed two people in Sichuan province and injured more than 480 others, 41 seriously, the official Xinhua News Agency said.

The news agency said Monday that the aftershock also killed four people and injured 20 others seriously in neighboring Shaanxi province.

Some 71,000 homes that had

survived the original quake were leveled, and another 200,000 were in danger of collapse from the aftershock that caused office towers to sway in Beijing, 800 miles away.

Xinhua did not give any details on whether the houses were occupied.

Before the aftershock, the Cabinet said the confirmed death toll from the disaster had risen to 62,664, with another 23,775 people missing. Premier Wen Jiabao has warned the number of dead could surpass 80,000.

A mudslide caused by the aftershock blocked a road, but Xinhua said no serious landslides were reported.

Previous landslides loosened by the quake jammed rivers across the disaster area, creating 35 new lakes that placed 700,000 survivors in jeopardy of floods, Vice Minister of Water Resources E Jingping told reporters in Beijing.

The biggest concern was the new Tangjiashan lake in Beichuan county, where some 1,800 police and soldiers hiked with 22 pounds of explosives each to blast through debris, according to Xinhua.



Chinese watch from the ruins of collapsed buildings, as workers clean the street, unseen, following the May 12 earthquake in Dujiangyan, southwest China's Sichuan Province Sunday, May 25, 2008.

Taiwan party chief visits China

TAIPEI, Taiwan (AP)—The leader of Taiwan's new ruling party promised to seek peace and economic engagement with China ahead of his departure Monday on a trip to the mainland to meet President Hu Jintao.

Wu Poh-hsiung, chairman of the Nationalist Party, is making the six-day trip at the invitation of China. It's the first mainland visit by the head of a ruling Taiwanese party.

The trip comes less than a week after Nationalist Ma Ying-jeou took office as Taiwan's president.

"I hope my trip will be conducive to the peaceful development of the two sides and enhance Taiwan's security as well as people's economic well-being," Wu said prior to his departure Monday from Taipei.



Wu

The Nationalists fought a bloody civil war with the Chinese communists on the mainland, and their defeated forces fled and resettled in Taiwan in 1949.

The ice between the sides was first broken in 2005 when then-Chairman Lien Chan of the Nationalist Party—the biggest opposition party at the time—made a historic visit to China.

Relations have further warmed since Ma was elected president in March. On April 12, then Vice President-elect Vincent Siew traveled to China and met Hu on the sidelines of a business conference in Hainan Province.

Ma has pledged to seek economic engagement with China and end nearly six decades of

hostility, a platform that played well with voters following eight years of a confrontational approach by ex-President Chen Shui-bian. Chen wanted formal independence, a stance that had enraged Beijing.

China demands unification with the self-governed island and has threatened to attack if Taiwan seeks a permanent break.

On Saturday, Ma told Wu to urge the Chinese government to quickly sanction expanded tourism to Taiwan and weekend charter flights to facilitate the travel. But he also made it clear Wu must not discuss the thorny issue of Taiwan's sovereign status or unification.

Most Taiwanese reject unification, fearing it would deprive them of their freedoms and compromise their economic prosperity.

Donors pledging Myanmar cyclone aid

YANGON, Myanmar (AP)—Donor nations said they were ready to provide Myanmar with more than \$100 million to help it recover from Cyclone Nargis, but warned the ruling junta Sunday they will not fully open their wallets until they are provided access to the hardest-hit areas.

U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, speaking to The Associated Press after a one-day meeting of 51 donor nations, said he believed a turning point had been reached in getting Myanmar's isolationist junta to allow foreign aid workers un-

hindered entry into the devastated Irrawaddy delta.

"I'm cautiously optimistic that this could be a turning point for Myanmar to be more flexible, more practical, and face the reality as it is on the ground," Ban told the AP.

But Myanmar's leaders—and potential donors—continued to take a guarded tone.

Myanmar's prime minister, Lt. Gen. Thein Sein, said international aid "with no strings attached" was welcome. But he hedged on the sensitive issue of direct access, saying

only civilian vessels could take part in the aid operation, and they would have to go through Yangon.

"Relief supplies can be transported by land, air or sea," he said. "But if relief supplies have to be transported by water, civilian vessels can come in through Yangon port."

That seemed to nix plans for U.S., British and French warships loaded with humanitarian supplies to join in the relief operation. The ships have been off Myanmar's coast for more than a week.

9 killed in fresh Sri Lanka fighting

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka (AP)—A new round of fighting killed seven Tamil separatists and two soldiers in Sri Lanka's restive north, the military said Sunday.

The clashes against the Tamil Tiger rebels took place Saturday in Mannar, Vavuniya and Welioya, the military said in a statement.

Rebel spokesman Rasiiah Ilanthirayan could not be immediately reached for comment.

It was not possible to independently verify the military's claims because media are banned from the northern jungles where much of the fighting takes place. Each side commonly exaggerates the other's casualties while playing down its own.

Fighting has raged in the past several months around the rebels' northern strongholds.

The military has been trying to break into the rebels' de facto state in the north for months, and the government has vowed to crush the insurgents by the end of this year.

Tamil Tiger rebels have been fighting government forces since 1983 to create an independent homeland in the island's north and east for ethnic minority Tamils, who have suffered decades of discrimination by governments controlled by ethnic majority Sinhalese.



AP

This is a Wednesday, May 22, 2002, file photo of Appa, a veteran Nepalese Sherpa guide who scaled Mount Everest for a record 18th time Thursday, May 22, 2008, Nepalese mountaineering officials said.

76-year-old oldest to scale Mt. Everest

KATMANDU, Nepal (AP)—A 76-year-old Nepalese man reached the summit of Mount Everest on Sunday and became the oldest person to climb the world's highest mountain, a tourism official said.

Min Bahadur Sherchan reached the 29,035-foot summit early in the morning with his climbing guides, said a Nepal Tourism Ministry official, Ramesh Chetri.

Sherchan was just 25 days away from his 77th birthday, Chetri said.

He beat the record set last year by Japanese climber Katsumi Yanagisawa, who scaled the peak at age 71. Sherchan was in good health and was descending from the summit, Chetri said.

The former soldier climbed smaller mountains before Everest and has been an active sportsman, Chetri said.

World

Iraqi military: al-Qaida fleeing Mosul

BAGHDAD (AP)—Al-Qaida fighters and other Sunni insurgents have largely scattered from the northern city of Mosul in the face of a U.S.-Iraqi sweep, fleeing to desert areas further south, an Iraqi commander said Sunday. He vowed the forces will not allow them to regroup.

The U.S. military said al-Qaida in Iraq was “off-balance and on the run” but remains a very lethal threat, tempering remarks by the U.S. ambassador a day earlier that the terror network was closer than ever to being defeated.

The comments came amid a flurry of attacks in Baghdad and other areas, most likely attributable to Sunni insurgents. A roadside bomb targeted a patrol of U.S.-allied Sunni Arab fighters near a mosque in northern Baghdad, killing one of the so-called Awakening Council members and wounding three others, a police official said.

Bombings and shootings killed three people in and around the city of Baqouba, north of Baghdad, where U.S. forces waged a fierce offensive last year to break al-Qaida domination of the city, police said. Police officials in both cities spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to talk to the press.

Iraqi security forces also conducted their first major roundup of weapons caches in Baghdad's Shiite district of Sadr City, where troops and police deployed last week—a move that could raise tensions in the military's truce with the powerful Mahdi Army militia.

The U.S. and Iraqi military have called Mosul the last remaining urban stronghold for al-Qaida in Iraq after successes against the terror network in Baqouba and major towns in the western province of Anbar.



An Iraqi man sells protective face masks in a street of central Baghdad, Iraq, during a sandstorm, on Sunday, May 25, 2008. AP

Anti-foreigner violence in S. Africa kills 50

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa (AP)—The death toll in two weeks of anti-foreigner violence in South Africa has reached 50, police said Sunday, as thousands displaced by the violence coped with rain and cool temperatures.

The revised death toll was eight more than the previous figure. A police spokesman also said Sunday that the army will continue supporting police trying to quell the violence.

On Saturday, the army said one of its soldier shot and killed a man who was attacking a

woman in a slum that has seen attacks on foreigners.

“There’s no change at this stage until such time as we are satisfied peace is being restored,” said Gauteng provincial police spokesman Govindsamy Mariemuthoo. He said few incidents and no deaths or injuries were reported overnight.

Thousands of foreigners remain in makeshift camps after being chased from their homes by stick—and knife-wielding mobs of South Africans who accuse immigrants of taking jobs and blame them for crime. A

church service was held Sunday at one of the camps.

The violence has centered on squatter camps and notoriously bleak dormitories built during the apartheid era for single men who were allowed to work in the cities, but not to bring their families.

President Thabo Mbeki, who on Wednesday called in the army for the first time since the end of apartheid in 1994 to aid police, was to address the nation on the violence later Sunday, according to the state broadcaster.

Mbeki condemned the violence Saturday, saying during an appearance in Cape Town that “there can never, ever be justification for criminal, violent activity against anyone.”

Other leaders of his African National Congress Party, including its president, Jacob Zuma, were visiting hot spots Sunday, hoping their presence and words could help restore calm.

Protesters marched for peace Saturday in Johannesburg, the commercial capital where the violence began and where it has been most intense.

Lebanese parliament elects army chief as president

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP)—Lebanon’s parliament elected a new president Sunday, taking a step to stabilize the country after a long, violent political crisis and ushering in a shift in the balance of power in favor of Iranian-backed Hezbollah.

The election of army chief Michel Suleiman brought palpable relief to ordinary Lebanese who feared in recent weeks that their country was in danger of another civil war.

Celebratory gunfire reverberated across the capital Beirut as the election results were announced in the early evening. Glittering fireworks lit the night sky over downtown a couple hours later as cars formed motorcades and honked their horns.

“He will be the savior. He is the hope for the future,” Amer Eido, 29, said of Suleiman as he watched the fireworks. “All the people are placing hopes on him and, God willing, he will bring prosperity.”

One motorcade was adorned with fluttering Qatari flags and pictures of the emir of Qatar, who brokered the deal last week that ended an 18-month political deadlock between the Hezbollah-led opposition and the Western-backed government. Red-and-white Lebanese flags and pictures of the new president were everywhere.

Plight of guest workers blemishes Dubai’s image

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP)—The 22 men in “trailer 10” work the morning shift at a construction site, then take turns shopping, cooking and cleaning. They pray together. When one returns to India on leave, he carries family presents and cash for the others.

“We all come from the Punjab” in northern India, said Pavinder Singh, a 42-year-old carpenter from the trailer in a camp that houses about 3,000 workers on the desert outskirts of Dubai. “But what makes us like a family is what we have to endure here together.”

Dubai’s astonishing building boom, which has made it one of the world’s fastest growing cities, has been fueled by the labor of about 700,000 immigrants—almost all from poor villages in India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

Their meager wages still go far in their native lands. Two or

three years in Dubai could mean building a house for their family, buying a plot of land or sending children to school. Yet many men escape poverty back home only to find themselves trapped in near-servitude here.

Human rights groups have for years decried the harsh conditions of foreign laborers in Dubai and the rest of the United Arab Emirates and oil-rich Persian Gulf. But the problem only drew widespread attention after strikes by thousands of workers this year and last. Some recent protests turned violent; in mid-March, police arrested at least 500 South Asian workers who smashed office windows and set cars ablaze in the small, neighboring emirate of Sharjah.

Dubai officials were embarrassed by the bad press in a city that advertises itself as a world business hub, playground for the rich and home to major horse races and golf and tennis

tournaments. But despite promises of reform, there are still problems, The Associated Press found in interviews with government officials and two dozen workers and visits to employer-provided housing:

- Many South Asian workers are essentially indentured servants, borrowing heavily to pay recruitment agents for jobs. They can spend several years paying back debts that can run \$3,000 or more, while earning between \$150 and \$300 a month, lately weakened by a falling dollar and Dubai’s double-digit inflation.

- They work a 60-hour week, with one day off or even just half a day.

- Employers often confiscate their passports, in violation of Dubai law, and withhold pay for two or three months to stop workers from quitting.

- Many have no medical insur-



Pakistani labors prepare for their dinner in their room at a labor camp in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, Feb. 22, 2008. AP

ance and work outdoors in summer heat of 120 degrees Fahrenheit and stifling humidity.

- Employer-provided housing often means bare, crowded

trailers behind barbed wire or on Dubai’s desert fringes. Some are not connected to water or sewage grids.

Overall, human rights groups

say, unscrupulous employers and government indifference have combined to create one of the world’s worst cases of systematic exploitation.

Overdrive

Fleming wins overall honors at car show

James Fleming led about 25 competitors to take home the overall best in show award during Sunday's Form and Function Auto Show at the American Memorial Park.

Fleming said that he has been preparing for the competition for a month and his efforts paid off when he was declared the overall winner. His car also took home the trophy in the two-door competition.

Shell Marianas played host to the first ever Shell Form and Function Auto Show.

Jeff Boyer, Shell Marianas retail area manager, said that 25 participants vied for exciting cash prizes at the car show.

There were nine categories: 2-door import; 4-door import, domestic, mini truck, 4X4, classic (over 25 years), café bike, roadster bike and best of show.

Highlighting the event were Guam's Biggah & Bettah, four fashion models also from Guam; and two award-winning exhibition cars from Guam. (Shell)



Monster trucks prove to be the most eye-catching ride during the first Shell Form and Function Auto Show at the American Memorial Park Sunday afternoon.

JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ



Motorheads check out the best and latest Yamaha roadster bikes during the show.

JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ

Visitors check out the vehicles displayed during the car show. Participants vied for nine categories—2-door import; 4-door import, domestic, mini truck, 4X4, classic (over 25 years), café bike, roadster bike and best of show.

JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ



Hundreds of Saipan car enthusiasts and motorheads gathered at the American Memorial Park on Memorial Day weekend.

JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ

Car show winners tell of experience

By JACQUELINE DELA CRUZ
jackie_delacruz89@yahoo.com
JUNIOR REPORTER

How do you feel about your win?

JAMES FLEMING: "I had restless nights and I feel overwhelmed. I have been preparing for this for one whole month. I had all the parts for this since last year. I think that the judges from Guam were really good and challenging. As a competitor I have to think like a judge. I thought about the interior and exterior appearances. I have been competing since 1998 and I have been winning second place in car shows in Guam."



JACQUELINE DELA CRUZ

James Fleming and his wife, Carol, pose with their trophies.

WARREN VILLAGOMEZ: "It feels great. It has been a long time since I exposed the vehicle. This is actually the first time I had entered an organized event, but for the Camaro I think it deserves a trophy that is long overdue. The



Camaro is a 1967 model. I want to thank my wife and most especially my daughter."

JACQUELINE DELA CRUZ

Warren Villagomez won two awards in the classic competition of the Form and Function Car Show at the American Memorial Park on Sunday.

JOEY MOSTALES: "It feels really good. All my hard work has paid off, as I haven't sleep for a while. I have been winning car shows a lot. Last year, I won first place for the 2-door/ 4-door Advance. Right now, maybe I have a total of 10 trophies."

Joey Mostales shows off the two trophies he won at the Form and Function Auto Show at the American Memorial Park on Sunday.

JACQUELINE DELA CRUZ



The 2008 Form and Function Auto Show was sponsored by Green Rock Entertainment, Miller Lite, Saipan Shipping, Triple J Motors, Fotten Gaga, Aquarius Beach Towers, Monster Energy Drink, Pepsi, Hertz Car Rental, Saipan Stevedore, Power 99, The Kat, Marianas Visitors Authority, American Memorial Park and Shell Marianas.

27th Annual Agricultural Fair



JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ

A deer curiously looks at the camera during the 27th annual Saipan Agriculture Fair at the Sabalu Market in Susupe Saturday morning.



Children enjoy their morning watching rabbits inside a cage.

JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ



JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ

Children and adults can't help but stare at a Marianas fruit bat.



JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ

Saipan Zoo staff Mercy Abubo feeds a goat with milk at the Petting Zoo.



JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ

Eleven-year-old Tiana Osada pets a cute piglet named "Popcorn" from the Saipan Zoo.



JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ

A duck remains oblivious inside her cage while children look on.



JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ

Community members check out the locally produced fruits and vegetables inside the Agricultural Fair plants division.



JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ

A child carefully pets a hamster at the Petting Zoo.



JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ

Dozens of roosters were also displayed during the event.



JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ

After two years of absence, the Saipan Agricultural Fair still draws hundreds of crowds.

Life & Style

French drama wins Cannes' top prize

CANNES, France (AP)—The French film "The Class," a frank tale about classroom life using real students and teachers at a junior high school, won top honors Sunday at the Cannes Film Festival.

Directed by Laurent Cantet, "The Class" ("Entre les Murs") was the first French film to win the main prize, the Palme d'Or, at Cannes since "Under Satan's Sun" in 1987. The docudrama was shot in a raw, improvisational style to chronicle the drama that unfolds over one school year.

The win was a unanimous decision among the nine-member Cannes jury, said Sean Penn, who headed the panel.

"The movie that we wanted to make had to resemble French society, had to be multifaceted, a bit teeming, complex, and had to sometimes portray frictions that the film didn't try to erase," Cantet said.

Italian films won the second-place grand prize and third-place jury prize. Matteo Garrone's "Gomorra," a study of the criminal underworld in Naples, took the grand prize, while Paolo Sorrentino's "Il Divo," a lively portrait of former Premier Giulio Andreotti, won the jury award.

Benicio Del Toro won the best-actor prize for "Che," Steven Soderbergh's four-hour-plus epic about Latin American

revolutionary Che Guevara. Presented as two films, "Che" follows Guevara and Fidel Castro's triumphant guerrilla campaign to overthrow Cuba's government in the late 1950s and Guevara's downfall and execution after trying to foment a similar rebellion in Bolivia in the 1960s.

Del Toro, who co-starred in Penn's "21 Grams," also won in a unanimous jury vote, Penn said.

"I'd like to dedicate this to the man himself, Che Guevara," said Del Toro. He also thanked Soderbergh, "who got up every day, forced me to this. ... He was there pushing it, and he pushed all of us."



French director Laurent Cantet, left, accepts with students from a Paris junior high school the Palme d'Or for best film for "Entre Les Murs" during the awards ceremony at the 61st International film festival in Cannes, southern France, on Sunday, May 25, 2008.

HOLLYWOOD THEATERS

Don't just go to the movies. GO HOLLYWOOD!

Located near Price Costco in San Jose Saipan MP • 234-9000



\$5.00 Bargain Matinees - All Shows Before 6PM
\$5.00 All Day Admission For Seniors
\$4.00 All Day Admission For Kids
\$5.00 Student Admission with Valid I.D.
\$5.00 Military with Valid I.D.

THRIFTY TUESDAYS \$5 ADMISSION ALL DAY TUESDAYS FOR FILMS WITH A (T)

RESERVE TICKETS ONLINE AT www.gohollywood.com



For Friday, May 23 through Thursday, May 29 only!



NOW SHOWING



Indiana Jones: Kingdom of the Crystal Skull

Tues - Thurs 4:25 7:15

Harrison Ford, Cate Blanchett
 Action Adventure • Rated PG-13

Synopsis

Set in the desert Southwest in 1957—at the height of the Cold War—Indy and his sidekick Mac have barely escaped a close scrape with nefarious Soviet agents on a remote airfield. Now, Professor Jones has returned home to Marshall College—only to find things have gone from bad to worse. His close friend and dean of the college explains that Indy's recent activities have made him the object of suspicion, and that the government has put pressure on the university to fire him.



Iron Man

Tues - Thurs 4:00 7:25

Robert Downey Jr., Gwyneth Paltrow
 Action Adventure • Rated PG-13

Synopsis

As CEO of Stark Industries, the U.S. Government's top weapons contractor, billionaire industrialist and genius inventor Tony Stark has achieved celebrity status by protecting American interests around the globe for decades. Tony's carefree lifestyle is forever changed when his convoy is attacked following a weapons test he oversees and he is held hostage by a group of insurgents. Injured by life-threatening shrapnel embedded near his already weakened heart, Tony is ordered to build a devastating weapon for Raza, the mysterious leader of the insurgents.



Speed Racer

Tues - Thurs 4:10 7:00

Emile Hirsch, Susan Sarandon
 Action Adventure • Rated PG

Synopsis

Hurling down the track, careening around, over and through the competition, Speed Racer is a natural behind the wheel. Born to race cars, Speed is aggressive, instinctive and, most of all, fearless. His only real competition is the memory of the brother he idolized—the legendary Rex Racer—whose death in a race has left behind a legacy that Speed is driven to fulfill. Speed is loyal to the family racing business, led by his father, Pops Racer, the designer of Speed's thundering Mach 5.



Forbidden Kingdom

Tues - Thurs 4:30 7:20

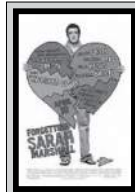
Jet Li, Jackie Chan
 Action Adventure • Rated PG-13



Made of Honor

Tues - Thurs 4:20 7:05

Patrick Dempsey, Michelle Monaghan
 Romantic Comedy • Rated PG-13



Forgetting Sarah Marshall

Tues - Thurs 4:05 7:10

Jason Segel, Kristen Bell
 Romantic Comedy • Rated R



Baby Mama

Tues - Thurs 4:15 7:30

Tina Fey, Amy Poehler
 Comedy • Rated PG-13

● NO PASSES

■ NO PASSES OR SUPER SAVERS

GIFT CERTIFICATES AVAILABLE • R-RATED FILMS REQUIRE PHOTO I.D.

www.gohollywood.com

TV's 'Laugh-in' comic Dick Martin dies at 86

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Dick Martin, the zany half of the comedy team whose "Rowan and Martin's Laugh-In" took television by storm in the 1960s, making stars of Goldie Hawn and Lily Tomlin and creating such national catch-phrases as "Sock it to me!" has died. He was 86.

Martin, who went on to become one of television's busiest directors after splitting with Dan Rowan in the late 1970s, died Saturday night of respiratory complications at a hospital in Santa Monica, family spokesman Barry Greenberg said.

"He had had some pretty severe respiratory problems for many years, and he had pretty much stopped breathing a week ago," Greenberg said.

Martin had lost the use of one of his lungs as a teenager, and needed supplemental oxygen for most of the day in his later years.

He was surrounded by family and friends

when he died just after 6 p.m., Greenberg said.

"Laugh-in," which debuted in January 1968, was unlike any comedy-variety show before it.

Rather than relying on a series of tightly scripted song-and-dance segments, it offered up a steady, almost stream-of-consciousness run of non-sequitur jokes, political satire and madhouse antics from a cast of talented young actors and comedians that also included Ruth Buzzi, Arte Johnson, Henry Gibson, Jo Anne Worley and announcer Gary Owens.

Presiding over it all were Rowan and Martin, the veteran nightclub comics whose standup banter put their own distinct spin on the show.

Like all straight men, Rowan provided the voice of reason,

striving to correct his partner's absurdities. Martin, meanwhile, was full of bogus, often risqué theories about life, which he appeared to hold with unwavering certainty.



This 1969 file photo shows comedians Dan Rowan, left, and Dick Martin, hosts of "Rowan and Martin's Laugh-In" performing their fickle finger of fate award portion of the program.

Online clips issue dogs actors talks

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The disagreement over the use of actors' images and voices in on-line clips dogged contract talks between the smaller of two actors unions and Hollywood studios on Sunday.

The American Federation of Television and Radio Artists called the dispute a "knotty problem" that had no precedent in decades of negotiating.

The union addressed the issue in an e-mail to members as talks covering a handful of prime-time TV shows such as "Curb Your Enthusiasm" entered their 15th day Sunday.

The three-year contract expires June 30, and the larger Screen Actors Guild is set to resume its negotiations with the studios Wednesday. Both unions and the produc-

ers have said they sought to avoid a strike.

"We are trying to think out of the box in order to reach pragmatic results," AFTRA president Roberta Reardon said in the message to its members. "We are prepared to bargain continuously, for as long as it takes, including working straight through the Memorial Day weekend."

'Indiana Jones' unearths \$126M

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Indiana Jones unearthed box office gold at domestic theaters with a performance that puts it on track to become the second biggest Memorial Day movie opening ever, according to studio estimates Sunday.

The fourth installment of the whip-cracking professor's exploits, "Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull," grossed an estimated \$101 million from Friday to Sunday, plus \$25 million from its opening Thursday, distributor Paramount Pictures said. The company expects it to earn another \$25 million on Monday.

That would put it behind only "Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's End," which had a Friday-through-Monday total of \$139.8 million, in the pantheon of Memorial Day weekend blockbusters.

Including Thursday's receipts, "Indiana Jones" was expected to collect \$151 million over five days, slightly behind "Pirates," which took in \$153 million with a partial Thursday included.

"Indiana Jones" did incredibly well for a film that comes 19 years after the previous installment," said Paul Dergarabedian, president of tracking firm Media By Numbers LLC.

The adventure flick received a lackluster reception from critics at the Cannes Film Festival, but audiences thought otherwise.

Box office estimates grew from \$25 million on its opening Thursday through \$37 million on Saturday, suggesting strong word of mouth, Dergarabedian said.

"This is the definition of a summer movie from two of the architects of the summer movie season—George Lucas and Steven Spielberg," he said. "These



Harrison Ford, center, arrives with co-stars Karen Allen and Shia LaBeouf, right, for the premiere of his new movie, "Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull," Tuesday, May 20, 2008, in New York.

guys have it down to a science and audiences want to go along for that ride."

The first three Indy movies took in \$1.2 billion worldwide.

Disney's action sequel, "The Chronicles of Narnia: Prince Caspian," slipped to second place with \$23 million, for a total of \$91.1 million over two weeks. The company expected the movie to continue to play well as school lets out.

"Once you start getting the mass number of kids out of school, it turns into some serious money," said Chuck Viane, president of distribution for Walt Disney Studios Motion Pictures.

Marvel Studios' "Iron Man" clinched another \$20.1 million, bringing its domestic total to \$252.3 million. A sequel is set for release in 2010.

The 20th Century Fox com-

edy, "What Happens in Vegas," continued to roll with \$9 million in its third week, for a total of \$54.2 million.

Fox senior vice president Bert Livingstone said high gas prices were encouraging people to see movies rather than take long trips away from home.

1. "Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull," \$101 million.
2. "The Chronicles of Narnia: Prince Caspian," \$23 million.
3. "Iron Man," \$20.1 million.
4. "What Happens in Vegas," \$9 million.
5. "Speed Racer," \$4 million.
6. "Made of Honor," \$3.4 million.
7. "Baby Mama," \$3.3 million.
8. "Forgetting Sarah Marshall," \$1.7 million.
9. "Harold & Kumar Escape from Guantanamo Bay," \$900,000.
10. "The Visitor," \$800,000.

"This is the last great bargain," Livingstone said.

But movie receipts were about 16 percent smaller than last year's Memorial Day week-

end, and revenue for the year to date is down nearly 4 percent at \$3.3 billion, with attendance off nearly 7 percent.

By this time last year, there were seven movies that grossed over \$100 million: "Pirates," "Shrek the Third," "Spider-Man 3," "300," "Wild Hogs," "Blades of Glory" and "Ghost Rider," according to Media By Numbers. This year, there are only three: "Iron Man," "Dr. Seuss' Horton Hears a Who!" and "Indiana Jones."

"It's no wonder that we're down in terms of revenues and attendance," Dergarabedian said. "You don't get out of a deficit like this overnight."

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at U.S. and Canadian theaters, according to Media By Numbers LLC. Final figures will be released Tuesday.

Honest honors student has to compete with cheaters

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
FROM UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DEAR ABBY: I am a ninth-grade honors student in a highly rated public school. I have never cheated on any assignment, nor have I ever helped anyone else to cheat. However, I know several of my classmates cheat on quizzes and homework assignments because I have seen them.

Abby, many of these students have better grade point averages (GPAs) than I do. In my school, the competition to become valedictorian is cut-throat. The valedictorian typically graduates with a 4.5 GPA.

It's frustrating to see the honor code at this school, as well as the hard work of honest students who are trying to make it to the top, undermined by the cheaters. Yet I'm hesitant to turn them in to the teachers if I see it happen again. What would be the appropriate thing to do?

VALEDICTORIAN CONTENDER, PLANO, TEXAS

DEAR CONTENDER: The thing to do is let the teachers and the principal know what's going on. If you are reluctant to do this for yourself, then do it for all the other honest students who are diligently trying to earn excellent grades and improve their chances of acceptance at the better colleges and universities.

Over the last 10 or 15 years, many people's standards of ethics have taken a nosedive. By "ethics," I mean doing what is right because it is the right thing to do. We hear about it daily when stories appear in the media about court-appointed conservators who cheat the frail elderly they were hired to protect, banks selling clients inappropriate retirement funds, mortgage brokers encumbering first-time homeowners with loans they can't keep up with, the theft and abuse of personal information, drug companies sponsoring "research" that influences the approval of questionable products, and educators who lie about their credentials.

Drivers speed and ignore stop signals if they think no one will see them, and residents of high-crime neighborhoods cling to a code of silence when innocent children and young adults are gunned down simply for being in the wrong place at the wrong time.

We are ALL responsible for creating the world we live in. And little will change in the face of ethical lapses and criminal behavior until more of us are willing to take a stand and do something about them when we see it happen.

Readers, your thoughts on this would be welcome.

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I purchased a home 2 1/2 years ago. Today we received an e-mail from the previous owners telling us they are coming here on vacation and would like to visit us and see the house again.

We don't want to visit with the previous owners. When we bought their house we never expected to see them again. My husband and I are very private people. How do we tell them we do not want to see them again or have them in our home?

INVADED IN HAWAII

DEAR INVADED: You are under no obligation to have any contact with the previous owners. E-mail the couple and tell them that a visit at that time is "not convenient" and a house tour is not an option.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby." Send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$12 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby—Cookbooklet Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in price.)

CELEBRITY EXTRA

By CINDY ELAVSKY
(C) 2008 KING FEATURES SYND., INC.

Q: One of my favorite shows is "Two and a Half Men." Can you tell me if the stars sing the theme song?—F.L., via e-mail

A: The opening of the popular CBS sitcom, starring Charlie Sheen, Jon Cryer and Angus T. Jones, features the stars lip-syncing the theme song. The song is, in fact, sung by studio singers—one of whom is actress/voice-over artist Elizabeth (E.G.) Daily. Her prolific resume includes "Rugrats," "Happy Feet," "Babe: Pig in the City" and "The Powerpuff Girls." She also co-starred in "Pee-wee's Big Adventure," "Lorenzo's Oil" and "Dogfight."

Q: I was so sad when I heard that Patrick Swayze was battling pancreatic cancer. How is he doing?—Ellen M., Altoona, Pa.

A: Patrick is in high spirits, and his doctor says he is responding very well to treatment. Patrick and his wife, Lisa,

issued this joint statement to his fans recently: "We're thrilled and grateful for the positive response Patrick has shown toward his treatment. Also, we can't help but feel that all the prayers, meditations and good thoughts sent his way by everyone has made a difference. Thank you." So, keep those positive thoughts coming.

Q: What is actor John Enos III doing these days? I loved him as Bobby Parezi on "Melrose Place."—Jessica M., Arcadia, Fla.

A: John recently completed filming a summer blockbuster-type movie for The Hallmark Channel called "Shark Swarm." It also stars Armand Assante, Darryl Hannah, John Schneider and F. Murray Abraham, among others. Look for the premiere over Memorial Day weekend.

Enos also has been busy writing, filming and editing funny little shorts for YouTube starring his Chihuahua. John told me recently: "Don't you



Charlie Sheen

know? Chihuahuas are the new tough-guy dog." Go to YouTube.com, search for "John Enos Chihuahua" and watch these funny shorts.

Q: The actress who played Maryann on "Gilligan's Island" was in a movie years ago in which she was kidnapped by Indians and lived with them for a while. A young chief loved her, and I believe she loved him. At the end, he let her go. Do you know the name of the movie?

Is it on video?—Josephine R.

A: The movie you're thinking of is "Winterhawk." In addition to Dawn Wells, the 1975 film starred Leif Erickson, Michael Dante, Woody Strode and Denver Pyle. The movie was ahead of its time in that Native Americans weren't portrayed simply as "the bad guys," like in so many previous Westerns.

In the movie, Chief Winterhawk (Dante) is double-crossed by white traders while trying to make a deal for medicine for smallpox. In retaliation, he takes hostages, one of whom is Clayanna Finley (Wells), in order to negotiate for the medicine. Throughout their ordeal, they do indeed fall in love, as Clayanna begins to understand and respect Winterhawk's beliefs, spirituality and values. "Winterhawk" is available on VHS tape.

Have a question for Cindy? E-mail her at letters@cindyelavsky.com, or write to her in care of King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



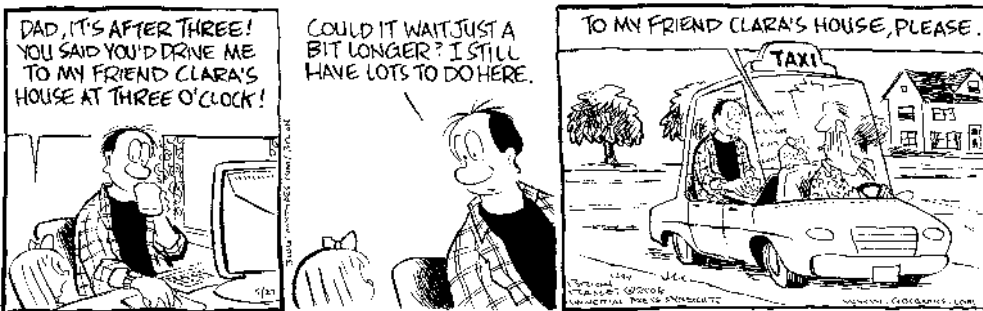
Garfield®

By Jim Davis



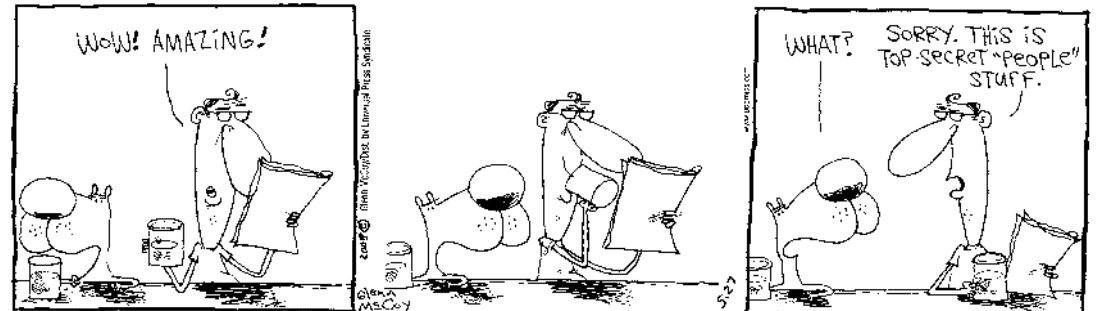
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Competent
5 Dandy
8 Hayseed
12 Rocky hill
13 Previous night
14 Any minute now
15 January 1 woe
17 Protuberance
18 Remnant
19 Nerd-pack occupant
20 Nixon's veep
21 That woman
22 Hodges of baseball lore
23 Macho type
26 Leaves in the lurch
30 So be it
31 Put into words
32 Reed instrument
33 Entertainer
35 Remark to the audience

DOWN

1 Rue the run
2 Cereal choice (Var.)
3 Crow's-nest cry
4 Quiche ingredient
5 High temperature
6 It takes the cake
7 Apiece
8 Relax
9 Privy to
10 "The Da Vinci —"
11 Recognized
16 Ready for
20 Atmosphere
21 Persevere
22 Festive
23 Muslim pilgrimage (Var.)
24 Ostrich's kin
25 "Family Guy" daughter
26 Scratch sash
27 Sapporo
28 Affirmative action?
29 Get a glimpse of
31 Gender
34 Remiss
35 Enthusiastic
37 Family members
38 Examples of condensation
39 Reverberate
40 Stumble
41 Challenge
42 Prop for Dr. House
43 Morsels
44 Coin aperture
46 Dinner for Dobbin
47 Gist

Solution time: 21 mins.

R	P	M	A	R	T	B	A	R	S
A	L	A	R	G	O	O	P	A	-
M	A	I	F	A	T	D	F	N	Y
S	Y	L	P	H	D	E	L	I	
V	E	T	M	E	C	C	A	S	
P	A	J	A	M	A	S	A	E	R
O	X	E	N	J	O	Y	R	D	E
S	L	E	W	S	D	E	N	I	Z
E	E	R	I	E	R	S	I	P	
N	A	I	L	S	P	A	D	E	
T	R	E	K	D	O	S	E	V	I
I	U	R	L	E	G	O	R	I	D
O	G	R	E	X			D	O	E

Yesterday's answer 5-27

STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-800-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Joseph Fiennes, 38; Todd Bridges, 43; Adam Carolla, 44; Louis Gossett Jr., 72

Happy Birthday: Keeping everything equal in all aspects of your life will bring the greatest freedom. The ability to see things clearly and make beneficial decisions will allow you to pursue your dreams. Money matters can turn out well if you aren't too generous in an effort to win favors or for the sake of making an impression. Your numbers are 3, 6, 12, 25, 31, 48

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Get involved in something that will get your adrenalin flowing. You need activity that is challenging and will give you spirit and enthusiasm. Protect your rights, your health and your professional and personal well-being. ★★★★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Do things for the right reason not because someone else is pushing you or putting demands on you. If you don't agree with what is going on around you, move on. Someone will twist your words if you give them too much information. ★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): A change is as good as a rest, so take a day off to spend with someone you love or to do something you've always wanted to do. Don't let someone else's indecisiveness cause you to miss out on something you want to attend. ★★★★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Government agencies, institutions, banks and corporate dealings will all go much smoother if you stop procrastinating and do what needs to be done. Deal with impending problems

before they escalate. Enjoy the adventure. ★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Your take-charge attitude will help you move into a lead position within an organization or group that requires structure. Don't let it cost you financially. Give your time, not money. ★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Think matters through to the end, especially if a project you need to complete is going to play havoc with your personal life. If you are organized, you can fit in a bit of both and satisfy the needs of you and others. ★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Your passionate nature may put you in an awkward position. You flirt well but someone is likely to take you seriously and expect more than what you are offering. Don't play games with strangers. ★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Do your thing and you will come up with a finished product that is unique, will please others and will lead to your success. Get whatever is being offered in writing—there is the slight chance of someone backing out or giving you less. ★★★★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Keep your emotions in check and don't let anyone get a rise out of you over changes being made. Go along with the majority but, if you really don't agree, be prepared to back away. Letting go, if need be, will put you in a winning position. ★★

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Don't settle for ordinary when it's originality that will give you the edge. Look for in-

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD
IN ASTROLOGY

COPYRIGHT 2007
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



dividuals who can complement your skills and enable you to take what you already have to a higher level. Don't limit yourself financially. ★★★★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You will be highly creative and should be able to implement some of your ideas into a prosperous plan or project. Your knowledge will pay off, so don't be afraid to talk about your decisions, plans and new direction with loved ones and friends. ★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): A surprise is in store for you. A good friend, neighbor or relative will try to enhance your day. If there is something you don't like, refrain from complaining. Be thankful you have made such a good impression. ★★

Birthday Baby: You are intelligent, clear-thinking and seek justice and fair play. You live life to its fullest and are inquisitive, imaginative and passionate.

Eugenia's Web sites: astroadvice.com for fun, eugenialast.com for confidential consultations

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

			5	8		1	9		
9		6				4			3
2				7			5		8
				4	1	9			
6		1		8					7
8				9			6		4
			4	7		5	8		

Difficulty Level ★★

5/27

©2007 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

4	1	6	3	8	7	5	9	2
2	8	5	9	1	4	7	6	3
9	7	3	6	2	5	8	1	4
3	2	7	1	5	8	9	4	6
1	4	9	7	3	6	2	8	5
6	5	8	4	9	2	1	3	7
8	6	4	2	7	1	3	5	9
5	3	2	8	4	9	6	7	1
7	9	1	5	6	3	4	2	8

WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The letter letters spell the Wonderword.

BIOMETRICS

Solution: 10 letters

G	T	U	S	Y	H	A	M	A	T	C	H	D	P	P
L	A	R	T	I	N	A	C	O	M	P	U	T	E	R
A	N	I	A	A	R	E	B	I	T	A	P	R	R	I
C	L	A	T	I	G	I	D	I	R	I	M	R	F	V
I	P	O	I	N	T	G	T	F	T	A	O	I	O	A
S	M	A	S	M	E	S	R	C	N	S	N	N	R	C
Y	S	P	T	E	M	H	E	N	G	T	O	M	Y	
H	E	P	I	Q	U	N	E	E	R	M	S	A	T	
P	R	R	C	S	E	C	S	R	E	K	L	R	N	I
S	U	O	A	Y	E	R	P	V	E	E	A	E	C	R
B	T	V	L	S	A	R	N	E	R	V	P	P	E	U
O	A	E	E	E	I	O	N	I	O	O	O	A	E	C
D	E	D	S	N	C	H	A	N	D	I	S	G	H	E
Y	F	I	T	N	E	D	I	S	O	C	O	P	Y	S
S	P	A	S	S	P	O	R	T	C	E	L	L	O	C

© 2008 Universal Press Syndicate www.wonderword.com

5/27

Anatomy, Approved, Body, Collect, Computer, Convert, Copy, Deny, Digital, Ears, Features, Fingerprint, Fraud, Gait, Government, Greek, Habit, Hand, Identity, ris, Match, Motion, Odor, Palm, Passport, Pattern, Performance, Permanence, Person, Physical, Pitch, Privacy, Security, Sensor, Sets, Shape, Statistical, System, Test, Traits, Veins, Voice

Yesterday's Answer: Booking

Treasury 4 is available to order by sending check or money order to: \$10.95 plus \$3.25 postage and handling \$14.20 total. U.S. funds only for the first volume. \$5.95 per copy for all other volumes. Universal Press Syndicate, 200 N. Wacker Drive, 4th Floor, Chicago, IL 60601-1111 or tel. 1-800-253-9734, ext. 8886. Order online at upscross.com

CLASSIFIED ADS



FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Apartment room for rent: Fully furnished
1 brm, T/B, 24-hr water \$210/month,
near Conwood | Tel. 287-1372, 235-6748

WHATZIT Solution:
A night on the tiles

FOR SALE

Beautiful Cherry Convertible Crib
w/ Mattress and Acc. - \$150
2 Mask, 2 Snorkle - \$20
Large Tusa Dive Fence - \$40
322-6900 • 483-7838
Chat Harmsen

NEED PROPERTIES

We are looking for all kinds of
properties, vacant property,
commercial building, house, or
apartment for long term lease or
for sale. Interested owners,
please contact Rayanne
@ Yuta Office. Tel. No. 234-3700

Make it a **daily** habit!
www.saipantribune.com

WHATZIT?

Find the familiar phrase, saying or
name in this arrangement of letters.

**GALAHAD
SHINGLE
PANTILE**

Find today's solution in this section

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure
without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete
7-day run on both print and online edition, for as low as \$25 per
3 liner ad for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto
and more. You can choose from any of below packages that fits
your budget.

ADS (7DAYS)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	\$25
• 5-Liner	\$35
• 3-Liner with picture	\$45
• 5-Liner with picture	\$55

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

All job vacancy announcements will be published for two issues
in each of two successive weeks.

1st position	\$13.00
2nd position	\$5.00
Succeeding positions	\$2.00

These rates apply to all job vacancy announcements on Saipan that
include corresponding benefits and positions that are all under the
same company name and dba.

Newspaper clippings are also available for \$.25 per copy.

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publica-
tion date

Job Vacancy Announcements

Monday Through Friday Issues: All ads placed before 12 noon will
come out the next publication date.

Saturday And Sunday Issues:

- *Saipan Tribune*: All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come
out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be pub-
lished on either Sunday or Monday issues.

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to
date of publication.

Job Vacancy Announcements

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to
date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No
refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day
of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue
date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper
headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate
sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales
Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads
will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the
right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan
Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and
to revise copy when necessary.

The Saipan Tribune now offers

Classified Ads Super Saver Package

for Print and Online Editions

A complete 7-day run for car sales, employment,
garage sales, apartment rentals, announcements,
lost and found, business services, and more...

3-LINER AD

\$25

3-LINER AD
W/ PHOTO

\$45

5-LINER AD

\$35

5-LINER AD
W/ PHOTO

\$55

Get results. Advertise now!

Call now at 235-2769
for more details.

Hafa Adail

Saipan Tribune
CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER



Ginobili leads Spurs to Game 3 win over Lakers



SAN ANTONIO (AP)—The San Antonio Spurs opened another big lead over the Los Angeles Lakers on Sunday night. This time, they kept it.

Manu Ginobili broke out of his scoring slump with 30 points off the bench and the Spurs beat the Lakers 103-84 in Game 3 of the Western Conference finals.

Tim Duncan had 22 points, 21 rebounds and five assists, and Tony Parker added 20 points and five assists for the Spurs, who remained unbeaten at home this postseason and avoided falling into an 0-3 hole, which no NBA team has ever overcome.

The Lakers lead the series 2-1. Game 4 is Tuesday in San Antonio.

The Spurs squandered a 20-point lead to lose Game 1 in Los Angeles and the Lakers routed them in Game 2.

Kobe Bryant led the Lakers with 30 points and Paul Gasol scored 15. Lamar Odom struggled all night, finishing 2-of-11 from the field for seven points. But he had six of the Lakers' 13 assists and 11 rebounds.

"They played solid defense, but we missed a lot of easy ones," Bryant said.

The Lakers also struggled at the free throw line, going just 8-of-17. Bryant went to the line only once.

On Sunday, the Spurs got a lead midway through the second quarter and never looked back, despite a late surge from Bryant.

"I felt good, and then it was easier for me," Ginobili said.

Up 69-57 entering the fourth, the Spurs opened with a 12-4 run, and Parker's layup gave them a 20-point lead with a little over 8 minutes to play.

Then Bryant did what Bryant does: almost single-handedly pulled his team out of the hole. He hit four 3-pointers over the course of less than 2 1/2 minutes



San Antonio Spurs guard Manu Ginobili (20), of Argentina, shoots a lay-up against the Los Angeles Lakers during the first half of Game 3 of the NBA Western Conference basketball finals, Sunday, May 25, 2008 in San Antonio.

utes and his last one brought the Lakers within 88-76 with 5 minutes to play.

But the Lakers would get no closer, not when the Spurs' title

defense would be all but ruined with a Game 3 loss.

Duncan answered with a three-point play to put the Spurs back up by 15 and not long after

Brent Barry's steal that resulted in a three-point play for Ginobili made it 97-78 with 3:26 to go.

"He bounced back the way I thought he would," Bryant said

of Ginobili. "He had a spectacular first half."

Reserve Jordan Farmar scored 10 points for the Lakers.

In the first half, Parker was penetrating the paint, but Ginobili was the big key for the Spurs. He had 22 points at the break—more than the 17 he scored in Games 1 and 2 combined. And whether or not his injured left ankle was bothering him, he didn't need it to explode to the basket because he hit 3 after 3.

After Bryant's driving dunk past Duncan with 4:57 left in the first quarter put the Lakers up 15-8, Ginobili hit back-to-back 3s from the same spot on the wing to get the Spurs within a point.

He didn't stop in the second quarter.

His 3 4 1/2 minutes in put the Spurs up 33-30, then he got to the rim about 30 seconds later and was fouled. His free throw made it 36-32.

"He is such a competitor," Spurs coach Gregg Popovich said. "He puts so much on his shoulders, he fights through a lot of things."

The Lakers struggled in the second quarter—turning the ball over early in the period on a shot-clock violation, missing free throws and shooting 7-of-17 from the field—and the Spurs pulled away.

Ginobili hit his fifth 3 of the night as the shot clock expired with less than a minute left in the first half. The Spurs outscored the Lakers 28-15 in the second quarter for a 49-39 lead at the break.

Odom was 1-of-7 from the field in the first half and guard Derek Fisher was scoreless.

Odom didn't fare any better in the third, and Gasol and Bryant combined for just 10 points as Spurs' defender Bruce Bowen continued to hound this year's league MVP.

Ginobili cooled in the third quarter—when the Spurs went up

Bulls' Noah arrested for possession of marijuana

GAINESVILLE, Fla. (AP)—Authorities in Gainesville have charged Chicago Bulls forward and former Florida star Joakim Noah with possession of marijuana and having an open container of alcohol.

Gainesville police spokesman Sgt. Rick Roberts says Noah was arrested around 1:50 a.m. Sunday after an officer spotted him on a sidewalk holding a plastic cup containing an amber drink, a violation of city law. During a search at the station, officers found marijuana in his pocket.

Noah was released after signing a notice to appear before a judge—standard procedure for such offenses. He could face up to 6 months in jail and a \$500 fine for the marijuana charge.

Noah led the Gators to consecutive national championships before being selected ninth overall in last June's draft by the Bulls. He averaged 6.6 points and 5.6 rebounds in 74 games as a rookie.

Bulls spokesman Tim Hal-lam said general manager John Paxson "did express to Joakim his disappointment in his actions this weekend" and added: "Until we gather further information on this situation, we won't be making any further comment."

by as many as 13—just as Duncan got hot. Duncan's two jump shots with less than two minutes to play, plus Ginobili's drive that showed he can still get to the rim, gave the Spurs a 12-point lead heading into the fourth.

Big Brown's slight hoof injury shouldn't derail Triple bid

NEW YORK (AP)—Big Brown's perfect path has its first bump.

The unbeaten Triple Crown contender has a slight crack on his left front hoof, although trainer Rick Dutrow Jr. was confident the injury won't keep his colt from running in the Belmont Stakes in less than two weeks.

However, the Kentucky Derby and Preakness winner has missed two days of training at Belmont Park, and will miss at least several more while being treated by hoof specialist Ian McKinlay for a five-eighths of an inch long quarter crack on the inside of his left heel.

"We're all concerned because there's a big race coming up," Dutrow said outside his barn. "But Ian has us pretty well relaxed. He's telling me it's nothing and he'll be fine in a few days."

Unlike the two-week turn-

around between the Derby and the Preakness, there's a three-week break before the Belmont on June 7. Good thing, too, especially if the injury heals by Thursday as Dutrow is hoping.

"If it was two weeks we would be nervous, but this way I'm as cool as we can be," Dutrow said. "It's bad that this happened, but it's good that it happened at this time."

McKinlay has repaired injuries much more severe before big races, allowing Touch Gold to fight off a leg injury from the 1997 Preakness and go on to win the Belmont and spoil Silver Charm's Triple try in 1997.

This will be a much simpler task, he said.

"This is a very, very minor crack," McKinlay assured. "We will put a set of wires in, stitch it up and then patch it."

Best case scenario, he says,

could allow Big Brown to return to the track Thursday.

"The worst case is he doesn't make the race," Dutrow said. "The horse is in great shape. He doesn't know anything is wrong with him. When you touch it and put pressure on it, he's going to give. But the worst possible thing that could happen is he doesn't make the race, and that will only hurt human beings. Not him. He's laying back, not worried about anything."

Dutrow said Big Brown continues to be taken for walks inside his barn, and is feeling no pain.

"If the race was today, yesterday or tomorrow, it would not be an issue," he said.

A quarter crack is a vertical crack in the hoof wall between the toe and heel of the hoof, usually extending into the coronary band, where the hoof meets the skin of the leg.

For the most part, the injury is not considered serious and is fairly common. Healing time can range from a few days to a few months, depending on the severity of the crack.

Foot woes are nothing new for Big Brown. When he first arrived at Dutrow's barn in Aqueduct late last year, he suffered an abscess in the sole of his left front foot, which caused a wall separation and sidelined him for 45 days.

In January, he suffered the same injury to his right front foot and missed another 45 days. Those injuries were called quarter cracks, even by Dutrow. But McKinlay noted there's a big difference.

"A quarter crack is just a split, literally, in the wall and it will start at the hairline and travel down but never reach the sole," he said. "A wall separating is the

exact opposite. It starts from the sole and runs to the top. And it's very painful.

"As far as this crack goes, it's very minor."

Dutrow first noticed something was amiss when one of his grooms called him over on Friday after a morning gallop. Dutrow didn't want to take any chances so he called McKinlay.

"I was hoping maybe he banged it on side of the wall. He's getting pretty aggressive when walks in afternoon, and really bossing people around," he said. "But I knew in my heart he was developing something that I didn't want to see."

The hoof was treated with a combination of iodine and alcohol Saturday.

Dutrow is looking ahead.

"I am sure he will be 100 percent, yes," Dutrow said. "If we get to breeze him (next) Tues-

day or even Wednesday, we can live with that. Monday would be great as long as Ian can get it done the right way."

Big Brown is set to attempt to become the 12th Triple Crown winner and first since Affirmed in 1978. Eighteen times, though, the Derby and Preakness winner failed in the Belmont, and twice, the Derby and Preakness winner never even made it to the Belmont—Burgoo King in 1932 and Bold Venture in 1936. According to reports, both suffered injuries and missed the final leg of the Triple Crown.

Could it happen to Big Brown, too?

"It scares us when something like this happens, but this has nothing to do with his ability to finish what he started," Dutrow said. "Now if something else happens, then we're going to be in trouble."

Mickelson wins at Colonial on final putt

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP)—Phil Mickelson made a 9-foot birdie putt on the final hole for a one-stroke victory at the Crowne Plaza Invitational over Tim Clark and Rod Pampling, who led by two strokes going to the back nine Sunday.

It was the 34th career victory for Mickelson, who began the final round with a one-stroke lead. But like he did the day before, Mickelson fell behind before regaining the lead on his final putt of the day.

Mickelson had a closing 2-under 68 to finish at 14-under 266. Mickelson won at Colonial in 2000, and has won 11 tournaments multiple times.

After saving par out of a greenside bunker at 188-yard 16th, Pampling still led by a stroke.

But on the ensuing drive at the 382-yard 17th, Pampling (68) hit the ball way right toward a ditch. He had to take a penalty stroke after a drop—though that put his ball where it could be seen rather than buried in heavy rough at the edge of a concrete gully. He managed to get the approach shot into a bunker, then blasted to 4 feet, pushing both arms in the air before tapping in the bogey. That came after Mickelson had two-putted from 28 feet for par.

Mickelson still kept it interesting, pushing his final drive well left into the rough between trees. Pampling put his drive in the center of the fairway.

Lefty calmly hit the shot, then took a couple of steps before jogging out of the trees to see the ball fall near the flag. Pampling left his approach 38 feet away, making his par after Mickelson made the winning putt.

Pampling may have still done enough to get into the top 50 for a spot in the U.S. Open.

Clark had birdies at Nos. 16 and 17 to get to 13 under—and tied for the lead—that same stretch where Pampling first saved his lead only to blew it after his next shot.

Pampling hit his tee shot at 16 into the right greenside bunker, and blasted within 9 feet. After Mickelson made par, Pampling took extra time to

examine his line and then saved par, and his one-stroke lead, pumping his right fist hard in the air as the ball dropped into the hole.

As Mickelson and Pampling were finishing No. 17, Clark's 14-foot birdie chance at the closing hole curled just short and he finished with a round of 66.

Stephen Ames (70) finished fourth at 269, a stroke ahead of Ben Crane (67).

Mickelson earned \$1.098 million, nearly double the \$594,000 check he got for winning the last Colonial eight years ago, and surpassed \$49 million in career earnings. He is the 11th player to win multiple times at Hogan's Alley, where five-time champion Ben Hogan is the only golfer to win more than twice.

Mickelson was back within a stroke after getting on the green at the 611-yard 11th in two, then two-putting from 33 feet. Pampling, the Australian native who lives in nearby Flower Mound and gets to play Colonial often, hit his first two shots at the hole out of the rough before a 13-foot birdie chance stopped right by the hole.

But they kept matching pars after that—until the final two holes.

When Mickelson got to the 6th tee in front of the huge scoreboard Sunday, he still had a one-stroke lead over Pampling. That was the spot the day before when Mickelson realized he had dropped out of the lead and three strokes behind Pampling, who was in a different group then.

But Mickelson didn't hold his lead much longer.

After driving into the right rough at the 394-yard hole, Mickelson's shot from there hit a tree branch and ricocheted left into the fairway, though he managed to save par after hitting the third shot within 3 1/2 feet. But Pampling got even with a 48-

foot birdie putt off the fringe, after coming out of his stance once and turning around to ask a spectator to turn off their phone.

Then at No. 7, Pampling outdrove Mickelson by 60 yards and made a 7-foot birdie putt to get to 13 under, a stroke ahead.

Pampling made it a two-stroke lead after his approach at No. 9 was within 4 feet for another birdie. Mickelson's 16-foot attempt slid right of the hole.

Ames began the day tied with Pampling for second place, but came up short on some early chances and

couldn't stay out of the bunkers.

Clark, who hasn't won yet on the PGA Tour, got to 11 under with birdies at Nos. 6 and 8, the latter a par-3 where he made a 20-foot putt. But Clark had only pars until his consecutive birdies late.

Phil Mickelson poses with the Marvin Leonard trophy after winning the Colonial golf tournament, Sunday, May 25, 2008 in Fort Worth, Texas.

AP



Gonzalez's 3-run homer wins it in 18th for Padres against Reds



SAN DIEGO (AP)—The lights were on and the sun was going down when Adrian Gonzalez hit a three-run homer with two outs in the 18th inning Sunday to give the San Diego Padres a 12-9 win over the Cincinnati Reds.

It was the fourth time the Padres played at least 13 innings this season. They played a 22-inning game at home against Colorado on April 17-18, losing 2-1.

Rockies 4, Mets 1

At Denver, Willie Randolph didn't get the pick-me-up he needed when New York lost to the Colorado Rockies, whose patchwork lineup included four recent call-ups.

One of them, Seth Smith, hit his first major league homer, a three-run shot off John Maine to back an impressive start by Aaron Cook (7-3). The right-hander allowed four hits, all singles, in his seventh career complete game and first since July 25.

Phillies 15, Astros 6

At Houston, Chase Utley and Shane Victorino each had three RBIs for Philadelphia, which finished with 16 hits after Houston's Chris Sampson allowed five through five innings.

Fernando Nieve (0-1), called up from the minors on May 16, gave up four hits and two runs without recording an out in the sixth and Utley hit a two-run homer off Dave Borkowski to cap a six-run seventh. Nieve was sent back to the minors after the game.

Pirates 6, Cubs 5, 11 innings

At Pittsburgh, Jason Bay beat the Cubs with an extra-inning single for the second day in the row, delivering a two-out line drive down the left field line in the 11th after Pittsburgh tied it on a dropped fly ball in the ninth.

The Cubs appeared to have the game won when Nate McLouth lofted a fly ball close to the warning track in left with two outs in the ninth and Chicago up 5-4. But Alfonso Soriano lost the ball in the sun and it glanced off his glove, scoring pinch-runner Brian Bixler to tie it.

Diamondbacks 9, Braves 3

At Atlanta, Eric Byrnes hit his first career grand slam to knock Tom Glavine out of the game and power Arizona past Atlanta.

Glavine (2-2) gave up six runs and five hits while walking six in 4 2-3 innings. Braves pitchers issued a season-high 11 walks in the game.

Marlins 8, Giants 6, 1st game Marlins 5, Giants 4, 2nd game

At Miami, Dan Uggla hit a bases-loaded, two-out single in the ninth inning to give Florida a double-header sweep against San Francisco.

Uggla also hit one of four homers for the National League East leaders in the opener.

San Francisco's Omar Vizquel played his 2,584th game at shortstop, breaking the major league record previously held by fellow Venezuelan Luis Aparicio. Vizquel tied the record in the opener and received a standing ovation from the Marlins crowd when it became official after the fifth inning of the second game.

Nationals 7, Brewers 6

At Washington, Elijah Dukes scored on Guillermo Mota's ninth-inning wild pitch, giving Washington a victory over Milwaukee.

Dukes started the decisive rally against Mota (1-3) by drawing a walk on a 3-2 pitch. Pinch-hitter Dmitri Young singled, moving Dukes to third. Mota's first pitch to Felipe Lopez bounced short of the plate and to the right, allowing Dukes to scamper in with the winning run.

Dodgers 4, Cardinals 3, 10 innings

At Los Angeles, Andre Ethier singled home the winning run in the 10th inning and Luis Maza hit his first big league homer, leading Los Angeles over St. Louis.

Russell Martin drove in two runs and touted prospect Clayton Kershaw pitched six effective innings for the Dodgers in his major league debut, striking out seven.

Athletics 6, Red Sox 3

At Oakland, Jack Hannahan hit that leadoff single and later drove in two runs, and Jack Cust hit a two-run homer as the Oakland Athletics completed a three-game sweep of the defending World Series champion Boston Red Sox.

Jon Lester (3-3) allowed seven hits and four runs over five innings, taking the loss in his first start since throwing a no-hitter Monday night against Kansas City. The Boston left-hander scuffled through early trouble before retiring the last six batters he faced.

White Sox 3, Angels 2

At Chicago, Carlos Quentin led off the ninth inning with his second homer off John Lackey (1-1), and Chicago beat Los Angeles to avoid a three-game sweep.

Quentin also hit a two-run shot in the third. His AL-leading 14th home run made a winner of Scott Linebrink (2-0), who pitched a perfect ninth after Jose Contreras threw eight strong innings.

Rangers 2, Indians 1

At Cleveland, right fielder Ben Francisco misplayed a simple single into a costly error in the 10th, enabling Jarrod Saltalamacchia to score from first base with the winning run as Texas edged Cleveland.

Saltalamacchia drew a two-out walk on the 10th

pitch he saw from Masahide Kobayashi (2-2).

Yankees 6, Mariners 5

At New York, Jose Molina hit a two-out RBI double to cap a four-run eighth inning, and New York rallied past Seattle for its fifth straight victory.

The Yankees won consecutive series for the first time this season, while the Mariners have lost a season-worst six games in a row. Seattle owns the worst record in the AL at 18-33.

Blue Jays 3, Royals 1

At Toronto, Shannon Stewart drove in the go-ahead run on a fielder's choice, Toronto's Dustin McGowan won for the first time in four starts and Kansas City has now lost seven straight.

McGowan (3-4) allowed one run and nine hits in seven innings to win for the first time since May 5 against Cleveland. He matched a season-high by striking out seven and walked none.

Twins 6, Tigers 1

At Detroit, Jason Kubel hit a tiebreaking grand slam with two outs in the eighth inning and Glen Perkins shut down Detroit's offense to take two of three in the series.

Carlos Guillen homered and finished with three hits for Detroit, which wasted a strong start by Justin Verlander after blowing out Minnesota 19-3 on Saturday night.

Rays 5, Orioles 4

At St. Petersburg, Florida, Evan Longoria drove in the winning run with a double in the ninth inning, giving Tampa Bay a three-game sweep of Baltimore.

Carlos Pena drew a one-out walk in the ninth off George Sherrill (1-1) and scored on Longoria's double to center. Longoria also caused Baltimore problems on Saturday, hitting two homers and driving six runs in Tampa Bay's 11-4 victory.

Alaska creams Talk ‘N Text; Purefoods trips Sta. Lucia

MANILA, Philippines—Alaska is slowly working its way up the standings.

After a shaky start, the defending champion appeared to have gotten its groove back, routing erstwhile leader Talk ‘N Text, 110-98, Sunday night for its third straight victory in the Smart-PBA Fiesta Cup at the Cuneta Astrodome in Pasay City.

But, as usual, Alaska coach Tim Cone “refused to get excited.”

“We’re still not out of the woods yet,” he said after his team’s fifth win in 11 games. “There’s a big reminder that there’s still a big cloud over us which should not get us excited over a three-game winning streak.”

Cone said the Aces don’t have to look farther than the tail-

end of that streak to realize that there’s still work to be done.

The Aces surged to a 19-point lead, 41-22, in the second quarter before watching the Phone Pals crawl back to within a point at halftime, 45-44.

In that stretch, Ren Ren Ritualo exploded with 16 points on a 40-percent shooting clip which created a hole in what was otherwise a spotless Alaska defense.

“We struggled there a bit,” recalled Cone. “But LA (Tenorio) did a good job, he settled us down.”

In the second game, Peter June Simon scored 22 points on top of three steals and two assists as Purefoods held off Sta. Lucia Realty’s fourth quarter charge to triumph, 82-74.

The TJ Giants thus picked up their second straight win to hike

up to 5-5, while handing the Realtors’ their fifth defeat in 11 outings.

“The reason we won is because we have been playing tough defense, something that we are really known for,” said Purefoods coach Ryan Gregorio. “We completely took the game out of (SLR import) Wesley Wilson.”

Tenorio scored 12 of his 19 points in the second half to restore order in the Alaska offense while the rest of the Aces flexed their muscles on defense.

“We have always been aggressive, especially LA and Larry (Fonacier), and Randy (Holcomb), he’s starting to understand the PBA brand of basketball,” said Cone.

It, indeed, looked like Hol-

comb finally knew his way around in the league, accounting for 18 of his game-high 29 points in the second half, while Fonacier had six of his 14 points in the same stretch, including a three-pointer that once again tore the game apart, 80-63, late in the third quarter.

The 6-foot-9 Alaska import also flaunted his all-around skill as he grabbed 17 rebounds and dished out seven assists.

Talk ‘N Text, which succumbed to its second straight defeat, slipped from the leaderboard with a 7-5 record.

The Phone Pals tried to recover their bearings in the pay-off period but the most they could do was trim the lead to 10 points (97-87) on a slam dunk by Anthony Washington with

four minutes remaining.

Aaron McGhee fired 24 points and 10 rebounds but he was shut out in the fourth quarter as he received the full brunt of Alaska’s defensive juggernaut.

“We are getting better and better, there’s no doubt about it,” said Cone, who was all-praises to Tenorio. “He got the ball to the right place and made excellent passes.”

First Game

Alaska 110 – Holcomb 29, Tenorio 19, Miller 19, Thoss 18, Fonacier 14, Dela Cruz 9, Ferriols 2, Hugnatan 0, Quiñahan 0.

Talk ‘N Text 98 – McGhee

24, Ritualo 16, Washington 15, Cardona 12, Allado 11, Alapag 8, Peek 8, Carey 3, De Ocampo 1, Chia 0, Belano 0.

Quarters: 31-18, 50-46, 80-69, 110-98

Second Game

Purefoods 82 – Simon 22, J. Yap 21, Rhalimi 15, Salvador 10, Raymundo 6, Villanueva 4, R. Yap 4, Lanete 0, Yee 0.

Sta. Lucia 74 – Williams 22, Espino 15, Wilson 10, Reyes 8, Yeo 7, Miranda 4, Omolon 4, Coronel 2, Mendoza 2, Daa 0, Aquino 0, Gonzales 0.

Quarters: 18-14, 35-37, 59-60, 82-74. *(PDI)*

JETS

From Page 28

Sablan won’t go anywhere though as Wenomer Namelo was forced out on a relay from third base to first and then delivered the coup de grace when he struck out Rudy Aldan.

The Jets dugout immediately spilled over to the field when the final out was called and the blue and red celebrated inside the diamond their improbable victory.

The Jets led early, scoring two runs in the first off a shaky start by pitcher Anthony Tenorio to lead 2-1. It was a seesaw battle after that as Fielders took a 3-2 lead in the second before making it a 5-4 advantage after the third.

The Fielders and Jets scored three runs apiece in the fourth to

give the Fielders an 8-7 lead, leaving the latter in a heap of trouble. But as manager Darren Flores said the Jets just seem to find ways to win in the final inning.

“All year long we’ve been fighting. All year long we’ve been playing Jets baseball and the top of the last inning is always Jets baseball. We never give up until it’s over. We play all the way until the last out,” he said.

Flores acknowledged that the Jets wouldn’t even be in a position to win if not for the Fielders’ mistakes in the final inning.

“We’ll take any error they give us and we’ll take any run. It’s a beautiful game. I’ll give credit to the Fielders. All year long they played hard baseball against us but it’s just the best team that came out on top today and it was

the team that didn’t make the mistake and that’s why we came out victorious,” he said.

Flores thanked the Jets sponsors Juan Santiago Tenorio, Jim Gephardt of Pacific Amusement, and Megabyte Saipan for supporting the team this season of yet another championship for his boys.

“Everybody did their part. The pitching came through. Everybody settled down. Even if our players only had one at-bat, they came through. If they needed to bunt just to move the runner over, they move them over. We took it last year and we’re back-to-back champs. Although we didn’t get the pennant this year, we got the championship and that’s the most important!”

Patriots and Lion’s Heart are also 2008 champs

Two other teams were crowned Sunday as the Patriots translated its one-loss season to yet another championship in the Major League, while Lion’s Heart roared to victory in the finals of the Junior League.

The Patriots proved to one and all that they are this era’s most dominant team in the Majors after exacting a 15-0, mercy run shortened win against the Dragons in last Sunday’s anticlimactic championship.

Lion’s Heart, meanwhile, got crucial hits from brothers Ricardo and Richard Dela Cruz to nip the Junior Jets, 3-2.

The results of the Big League finals between Falcons and Fielders yesterday was still not available as of press time.

RUSSIAN

From Page 28

a day against anyone who would challenge him at the Hyatt Regency Saipan where he and his wife are staying.

Marianas Amateur Table Tennis Association member and local champion Budhi Gurung is a frequent sparing mate and he said Kovalevskiy is a good player who produces a strong topspin from his forehand.

Last Saturday, Gurung brought Kovalevskiy to MATTA’s training facility at the

Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium multi-purpose room and it was a chance for the Russian to strut his ping-pong skills in front of other MATTA members.

In an interview, Kovalevskiy said he is a member of the Club Start table tennis organization in Russia’s Altaiskiy region.

He said for the past five years, he has been under the guidance of former champion, Boris Verbizkiy, who at 69 years old is very much active in the sport.

Kovalevskiy said his club practices from 7:30pm to 9:30pm, four to five days a week. He added that they have regular tournaments for

veteran ping-pong players divided into age groups—40 to 50 or 50 to 60.

On a more personal side, Kovalevskiy is a businessman and his only son is now 29 years old. He said he loves to travel two to three times a year with his wife and that he never forgets to bring his ping-pong paddle with him when he travels, “so that I could find friends to play with me and spend the time with besides the scheduled sightseeing.”

Asked what countries he visited were the most memorable, Kovalevskiy volunteered five—

Thailand, Italy, Spain, Dubai, and Turkey.

He said he is very much impressed about his Saipan trip, especially due to its azure waters and powder white beaches, and is considering to make more travel plans to the CNMI in the future.

Kovalevskiy said if his busy schedule permits, he would like to come back in October this year to watch the CNMI’s 10th Goodwill Table Tennis Tournament where Japan is joining for the first time along with mainstays Guam, Tinian, and Saipan.

In doubles competition, Heo teamed up with Cody Race to win the boys’ 16-and-under following a 6-3, 6-3 victory over Calvin Yang and Woo Suk Chang.

Clay McCullogh-Stearns and Jake Lee reigned supreme in the boys’ 12-and-under after winning a tough three-setter over Christian Miller and Tommy Choi, 6-3, 2-6, 6-4.

The tandem of Mikayla Lopez and Kris Obaldo, meanwhile, raised the girls’ 12-and-under trophy after a hard-earned 6-4, 4-6, 6-0 win over Gabrielle Race and Neghar Rastguiy.

PADILLA

From Page 28

Heo didn’t even have to come to the Pacific Islands Club tennis courts as his final opponent, Jeff Race, begged off from their match because of illness.

The championships of the women’s open and men’s 4.0, meanwhile, were rained out and James Camacho and Gabriel Boyer and Vivien Lee and Mayuko Arriola would have to find time today to conclude their title matches.

Luckily for Padilla, Mother

Nature was an ally as it zapped whatever momentum Asuncion marshaled in the second set when the two renewed their battle following a 30-minute rain delay.

Before the clouds opened up, Asuncion had forced a third and deciding set following a masterful 6-3 win over Padilla in the second. This, after his opponent outlasted him in the opening set, 6-4.

While Padilla was visibly rejuvenated by the half-hour break, Asuncion came out of it without the spunk, timing, and consistency he showed in the second set.

Nonetheless, Asuncion would



TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES			
MLB STANDINGS			
AMERICAN LEAGUE			
East Division			
	W	L	Pct GB
Tampa Bay	30	20	.600 —
Boston	31	22	.585 1/2
Toronto	27	25	.519 4
New York	25	25	.500 5
Baltimore	24	25	.490 5 1/2
Central Division			
Chicago	27	22	.551 —
Minnesota	25	25	.500 2 1/2
Cleveland	23	27	.460 4 1/2
Detroit	21	29	.420 6 1/2
Kansas City	21	29	.420 6 1/2
West Division			
Los Angeles	30	22	.577 —
Oakland	28	23	.549 1 1/2
Texas	26	26	.500 4
Seattle	18	33	.353 11 1/2
NATIONAL LEAGUE			
East Division			
Florida	29	20	.592 —
Atlanta	27	23	.540 2 1/2
Philadelphia	28	24	.538 2 1/2
New York	23	25	.479 5 1/2
Washington	22	29	.431 8
Central Division			
Chicago	29	21	.580 —
St. Louis	30	22	.577 —
Houston	29	23	.558 1
Pittsburgh	24	26	.480 5
Milwaukee	23	27	.460 6
Cincinnati	23	28	.451 6 1/2
West Division			
Arizona	30	20	.600 —
Los Angeles	26	23	.531 3 1/2
Colorado	20	30	.400 10
San Francisco	20	31	.392 10 1/2
San Diego	19	33	.365 12
Yesterday's Games			
Florida 8, San Francisco 6st game			
Florida 5, San Francisco 4nd game			
Arizona 9, Atlanta 3			
Pittsburgh 6, Chicago Cubs 5, 11 innings			
Washington 7, Milwaukee 6			
Philadelphia 15, Houston 6			
Colorado 4, N.Y. Mets 1			
L.A. Dodgers 4, St. Louis 3, 10 innings			
San Diego 12, Cincinnati 9, 18 innings			
Minnesota 6, Detroit 1			
Texas 2, Cleveland 1, 10 innings			
N.Y. Yankees 6, Seattle 5			
Toronto 3, Kansas City 1			
Tampa Bay 5, Baltimore 4			
Oakland 6, Boston 3			
Chicago White Sox 3, L.A. Angels 2			
CROWNE PLAZA INVITATIONAL SCORES			
FORT WORTH, Texas (AP)—Final scores and earnings after Sunday's fourth round of the Crowne Plaza Invitational, a \$6.1 million (\$3.9 million) U.S. PGA Tour event at 7,054-yard, par-70 Colonial Country Club (FedExCup points in parentheses):			
			BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
Phil Mickelson (4500), \$1,098,000	65-68-65-68	266	
Tim Clark (2200), \$536,800	68-69-64-66	267	
Rod Pampling (2200), \$536,800	69-67-63-68	267	
Stephen Ames (1200), \$292,800	68-67-64-70	269	
Ben Crane (1000), \$244,000	68-68-67-67	270	
Pat Perez (900), \$219,600	72-68-67-65	272	
Geoff Ogilvy (806), \$196,725	72-64-69-68	273	
Jeff Quinney (806), \$196,725	71-68-66-68	273	
Matt Kuchar (725), \$176,900	70-64-71-69	274	
Steve Marino (575), \$140,300	68-70-71-66	275	
Tommy Armour III (575), \$140,300	71-66-68-70	275	
Mark Wilson (575), \$140,300	70-67-68-70	275	
Paul Goydos (575), \$140,300	68-71-66-70	275	
Brian Gay (575), \$140,300	69-65-69-72	275	
Ryan Palmer (330), \$80,409	70-70-69-67	276	
Charlie Wi (330), \$80,409	71-70-67-68	276	
Ian Poulter (330), \$80,409	68-70-69-69	276	
Brett Quigley (330), \$80,409	70-68-67-70	276	
Chris DiMarco (330), \$80,409	72-69-65-70	276	
Mike Weir (330), \$80,409	71-69-66-70	276	
Corey Pavin (330), \$80,409	67-69-69-71	276	
Briny Baird (330), \$80,409	70-67-67-71	276	
Jerry Kelly (330), \$80,409	68-71-66-71	276	
Lucas Glover (330), \$80,409	70-70-65-71	276	
Kevin Sutherland (330), \$80,409	67-68-68-73	276	
Nathan Green (178), \$43,310	71-68-71-67	277	
Heath Slocum (178), \$43,310	74-68-67-68	277	
Sean O'Hair (178), \$43,310	72-70-66-69	277	
David Toms (178), \$43,310	72-69-66-70	277	
Dean Wilson (178), \$43,310	72-69-66-70	277	
Bart Bryant (178), \$43,310	72-65-69-71	277	
Alex Cejka (178), \$43,310	67-72-67-71	277	
Nick O'Hern (129), \$31,546	70-70-72-66	278	
Carl Pettersson (129), \$31,546	72-69-70-67	278	
Justin Leonard (129), \$31,546	70-72-69-67	278	
Richard Johnson (129), \$31,546	67-69-72-70	278	
George McNeill (129), \$31,546	69-71-68-70	278	
Ben Curtis (129), \$31,546	68-71-67-71	278	
Mark Brooks (129), \$31,546	67-68-70-73	278	
Anthony Kim (95), \$23,180	69-72-70-68	279	
Glen Day (95), \$23,180	66-74-69-70	279	
Kevin Stadler (95), \$23,180	71-70-68-70	279	
Joe Ogilvie (95), \$23,180	72-70-67-70	279	
Daniel Chopra (95), \$23,180	73-68-67-71	279	
Jose Coceres (95), \$23,180	68-68-69-73	279	
Steve Elkington (68), \$16,592	73-67-72-68	280	
Kenny Perry (68), \$16,592	70-69-71-70	280	
Jon Mills (68), \$16,592	72-69-69-70	280	
Mathew Goggin (68), \$16,592	67-73-69-71	280	
Johnson Wagner (68), \$16,592	63-71-73-73	280	
Brian Bateman (68), \$16,592	70-65-70-75	280	
Brett Wetterich (58), \$14,082	65-76-72-68	281	
Ryan Moore (58), \$14,082	71-68-71-71	281	
Jason Bohn (58), \$14,082	73-67-70-71	281	
Billy Mayfair (58), \$14,082	71-69-69-72	281	
Nicholas Thompson (58), \$14,082	71-69-69-72	281	
Tim Herron (58), \$14,082	73-67-68-73	281	
Vaughn Taylor (58), \$14,082	67-68-70-76	281	
Arron Oberholser (55), \$13,298	70-71-71-70	282	
Kevin Na (55), \$13,298	70-71-70-71	282	
John Merrick (55), \$13,298	70-70-70-72	282	
Brian Davis (55), \$13,298	68-72-70-72	282	
Parker McLachlin (55), \$13,298	70-70-70-72	282	
Chez Reavie (52), \$12,688	73-68-72-70	283	
Tag Ridings (52), \$12,688	69-68-72-74	283	
Steve Lowery (52), \$12,688	68-67-73-75	283	
James Driscoll (52), \$12,688	69-70-69-75	283	
Robert Garrigus (52), \$12,688	70-69-67-77	283	
Olin Browne (51), \$12,322	74-68-71-71	284	
Bo Van Pelt (50), \$12,139	72-70-71-72	285	
Rocco Mediate (50), \$12,139	73-68-70-74	285	
Bubba Watson (49), \$11,956	69-73-69-75	286	
Patrick Sheehan (49), \$11,834	70-72-67-78	287	

49 Escape from Managaha Island

By MARK RABAGO

Photos By DAN KIMBALL

mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSISTANT EDITOR

The 6th Annual Escape from Managaha Island was held last Saturday with a total of 49 Saipan Swim Club members and masters swimmers taking the plunge.

Lester Lapuz was a pleasant surprise by beating everyone to shore with a marvelous time of 43 minutes flat. He was followed by SSC veteran Sarah Johnson, who won her third straight women's race by touching the orange buoy in 42:21.

Other top finishers were Kai Staal (43:27) and Colin Thompson (43:43) for the men and Grace Kimbal (45:31) and Mamiko Shimizu (48:58) for the women.

Two groups of swimmers took off from the island's tourist hotspot with the slower, red-capped participants launching at around 8am followed some 10 minutes later by the faster and more accomplished, green-capped participants.

Cancer survivor Mary Ann Stewart again took part in the race, accomplishing the feat in 1:13:21.

SSC head coach Michael Stewart, for his part, ditched the stunts this year and contented himself by escorting the association's youngest members. "Coach Mike's Guppys" didn't disappoint and even finished ahead of their mentor.

Andrew Kimball (1:17:26), Abigail Martinsen and Victoria Chentsova (1:20:14), Bryce Daly (1:20:49), Maxi Braig (1:21:56), and Kento Akimaru (1:22:06) touched the orange buoy well ahead of coach Michael, who as of this writing, still has no official record of finishing the race.

Whether he did "Escape" or not, Stewart still went out of his way and thanked everyone who made the crossing possible, namely the crew of Jade Lady II, Marianas Visitors Authority staff Frank Tudela, officers from Division of Boating Safety, and staff of the Commonwealth Ports Authority.



Forty nine participants of last Saturday's 6th Annual Escape from Managaha Island embark on the *Jade Lady III*.



Saipan Swim Club head coach Michael Stewart poses with his youngest charge Kento Akimaru.



Above, Abigail Martinsen and Victoria Chentsova bring it home. Both clocked in at 1:20:14.

Right, youngest swimmer Kento Akimaru rests after coming in with the rest of "Coach Mike's Guppys" in a time of 1:22:06.



Junior Pamaran finishes strong and reached Micro Beach in 56:04.



Sarah Johnson won the women's division of the crossing for a third straight year, proving once again that she is the queen of swimming in the islands.



Lester Lapuz was the first swimmer to come ashore at the American Memorial Park after taking part in the 6th Annual Escape from Managaha Island held last Saturday.



49 Escape from Managaha

The 6th Annual Escape from Managaha Island was held last Saturday with a total of 49 Saipan Swim Club members and masters swimmers taking the plunge.

27

Saipan Tribune Sports

Ginobili leads Spurs to Game 3 win over Lakers

The San Antonio Spurs opened another big lead over the Los Angeles Lakers on Sunday night. This time, they kept it.



24

28 TUESDAY, MAY 27, 2008

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Lefty Leong is 2008 May Masters Tournament winner

By MARK RABAGO
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSISTANT EDITOR



Veteran southpaw Richard Leong is this year's 26th CNMI May Masters Bowling Tournament men's champion after knocking down 200 or more pinfalls in 10 of 12 games last Sunday at the Saipan Bowling Center.

The 39-year-old Multi-Line Supply sales manager proved his All Events win on Saturday was no fluke by finishing with a pinfall total of 2,543, good for an average of 211.92.

Leong started out with a couple of 200-plus games (206 and 202) before rolling a pedestrian 179 in the third game. He soon found his rhythm after that, stringing together seven games where he averaged a scorching 218.5 pinfalls.

After a momentary hiccup in the 11th game, which saw him uncharacteristically score a 168, Leong capped her amazing afternoon with a tourney high 258 in the 12th and final game.

The win was worth \$850 for Leong. He also

went home with a beautiful championship trophy.

Finishing 96 pins shy of the big payday and first place was fellow perfect bowler Dannie Robles. He came away with a pinfall total of 2,447 and an average of 203.92 after putting together games of 211, 208, 236, 244, 169, 198, 207, 178, 238, 193, 165, and 200.

Simon Manacop completed the Top 3 with a pinfall total and average of 2,421 and 201.75, respectively. Manacop was strong in his first three games (211, 203, and 236) before tapering off in his next four (179, 187, 165, and 185).

The Department of Public Safety officer then had a rollercoaster final five games (228, 195, 234, 185, and 213). Robles and Manacop settled for the \$450 and \$300 runner-up prizes.

Raymond Zapanta (2,391 pinfalls and 199.25 average), Ronald Epan (2,301 and 191.75), and Paul Pangelinan (2,300 and 191.67) also made it to the money list, finishing fourth to sixth places. Zapanta went home with \$200, Epan \$100, and Pangelinan \$50.

Last Saturday, Ron Cal successfully defended her championship in the women's



May Masters men's champion Richard Leong poses with his championship trophy together with wife Es-sel and daughters Iris and Ivy during the 26th CNMI May Masters Bowling Tournament awards ceremony at Club V of the Saipan Grand Hotel Sunday night.

division after tattooing 2,226 pinfalls, good for a 185 average.

Yho Villavicencio wound up third with a pinfall total of 2,024 and a per game average of 168.67. All Events winner Gina Sablan and Elena Soll completed the Top 5 with pinfalls of 2,016 (168 average) and 1,995 (166.25), respectively.

In the men's team competition, the foursome of Raymond Zapanta, Raymond Angeles, Kitz Barja, and Leong nosed out favorites Robert Talavera, Jon Hensley, Paul Pangelinan, and Alex Cacdac (2,453-2,214).

Other winners of the May Masters were Leong (singles event), Zapanta and Angeles (doubles), Rita Palacios (women's singles), Soll and Villavicencio (women's doubles), and Cal, Sablan, Gigi Zapanta, and Gloria Omechalang (women's team).

The three-day May Masters was organized by the Saipan Bowling Association and was sponsored in part by JET Holdings, MARPAC-Budweiser, Saipan Grand Hotel, Club V, the Marianas Visitors Authority, PTI, and Saipan Bowling Center CNMI.

Jets repeat as Senior League champs

By MARK RABAGO
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSISTANT EDITOR

Defending champion Jets pounced on two crucial errors from the Fielders in the top of the seventh inning to score a come-from-behind 9-8 victory in the finals of the 2008 Senior League yesterday at the Francisco M. Palacios Baseball Field.

Training 8-7 and down to their final two at-bats, the Jets took advantage of an error by the Fielders shortstop that allowed Toby Fleming to race home and score when he should have been stranded at second base.

With the game tied at 8-8, Jimmy Brel hit a sacrifice fly to shallow first base, which was caught for the second out.

But to the dismay of the Fielders faithful, Eli Aughenbach was

also carefully looking at the action and quietly tagged up at third base when the Fielders were visibly celebrating and was already safe at home scoring the decisive run when the Fielders finally realized their mental lapse.

By the time, relief pitcher Tom Agulto retired Juan Iguel, the damage was already done and the Jets held a 9-8 lead into the bottom of the seventh and final inning.

Whatever faint hopes the Fielders had for a last-ditch comeback was immediately extinguished by hard-hitting Jets pitcher Chris Myers, who after taking the mound vice Davin Camacho, settled down and went to work.

And it was most evident in the final three outs, as Myers forced opposing pitcher Agulto to ground out to first before allowing a base hit by James Sablan.

See **JETS** on Page 26



Defending champion Jets flash the No. 1 sign after their 9-8 come-from-behind win over the Fielders in the finals of the 2008 Senior League yesterday at the Francisco M. Palacios Baseball Field.

Russian tourist brings paddle wherever he goes



Russian ping-pong player Vladimir Kovalevskiy, right, poses with Marianas Amateur Table Tennis Association members Con Pobre, left, and Budhi Gurung.

By MARK RABAGO
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSISTANT EDITOR



Vladimir Kovalevskiy is vacationing with his wife from Russia but while other tourists are content with just sightseeing, the 55-year-old has incorporated his favorite sport in his Saipan sojourn.

The past couple of weeks, Kovalevskiy has been playing table tennis three to four hours

See **RUSSIAN** on Page 26

Padilla beats Asuncion in men's 4.5 finals

By MARK RABAGO
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSISTANT EDITOR



Memorial Day was a memorable day for Lope Padilla, as the veteran netter survived Mother Nature's rain showers and the spryness of a much younger Richard Asuncion to win the men's 4.5 finals of the 2008 DFS Micronesian Championships.

In the men's open, the CNMI's top netter Ji Hoon

See **NMITA** on Page 26



Lope Padilla is about to serve in his men's 4.5 finals game against Richard Asuncion in the 2008 DFS Micronesian Championships held yesterday at the Pacific Islands Club.